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Japan

Finance Minister Leaves for London Summit

OW1207103491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0807 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 12 KYODO—Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto left Japan for London on Friday to attend the annual economic summit of seven major industrialized countries.

After the july 15-17 summit, Hashimoto is slated to leave London on Thursday for a four-day visit to Nepal on his way home. The finance minister is scheduled to return to Tokyo on July 23.

The summit will include leaders from the United States, Japan, Britain, Canada, France, Germany, and Italy.

Tokyo Considering Bank Loan to USSR

OW1107152191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1453 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 11 KYODO—Japan is considering an offer of about 200 million dollars in a syndicated loan from commercial banks to the Soviet Union next Wednesday, government sources said Thursday.

The offer is likely to be conveyed by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu at his meeting with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in London next Wednesday, the sources said.

The proposed loan is equivalent to about 200 million dollars in delayed Soviet payments for imports from Japan, which are covered by the government's trade insurance system.

A syndicate of Japanese commercial banks will extend the loan to help the dollar-short Soviet Union make the payments, the sources said.

The sources said the proposed loan represents the maximum aid at present Japan would extend to the Soviet Union at the London summit under its policy of not giving full-scale financial support to the country before settlement of the issue of the four disputed islands off Hokkaido.

Further Reportage on Kaifu's Visit to U.S.

Discusses USSR Aid With Bush

OW1107233091 Tokyo KYODO in English 2234 GMT 11 Jul 91

[By Narito Ohta]

[Text] Kennebunkport, Maine, July 11 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and U.S. President George Bush agreed Thursday not to offer massive financial assistance to the Soviet Union, officials said.

The two leaders reached the agreement after two hours of face-to- face talks at Bush's vacation home in Kennebunkport, Maine.

Assistance to the Soviet Union is expected to top the agenda at the London summit of seven major economic powers July 15-17.

Kaifu began talks with Bush immediately after his arrival in Kennebunkport. Only a handful of aides attended the meeting.

The Japanese Prime Minister explained to Bush that Western industrial nations should not provide tens of billions of dollars in aid to the Soviet Union until there is evidence that Soviet leaders have committed to economic restructuring leading to a market economy.

Kaifu proposed a gradual assistance approach, beginning with farm product export credits, special associate membership in the International Monetary Fund (IMF), conversion of defense industries to civilian use, and creation of a more efficient food distribution system, according to a Japanese Foreign Ministry official.

Japan, which is a possible fund provider, has showed reluctance to offer massive financial assistance to the Soviet Union because the Soviets occupy four small islands off northern Japan claimed by Japan.

On bilateral topics, Bush asked Kaifu to change all invisible trade barriers into monetary value, or tariffs, which he said will pave the way for liberalization of global farm trade.

Bush's request referred specifically to Japan's virtual ban on rice imports, a stumbling block at the stalled Uruguay Round trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Kaifu refused to accept the U.S. call for "tariffication" on the grounds that a nation's staple food should depend on domestic supply for a "national security" reasons.

He also reiterated that disputes should be settled through the Uruguay Round of trade talks.

Kaifu and his wife Sachiyo arrived at Bush's vacation home from Boston by helicopter in midafternoon. They will stay in Maine as Bush's overnight house guests.

Comments on Bush Meeting

OW1207023891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0019 GMT 12 Jul 91

[By Narito Ohta]

[Text] Kennebunkport, Maine, July 11 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Thursday got U.S. President George Bush's support for Japan's stand that Western industrial nations should refrain from massive financial assistance to the Soviet Union until the Soviets head for a clearer market economy and more democracy.

The prime minister said, "Now between Japan and the Soviet Union, we had...a joint declaration which recognized the primary importance of the efforts to sign a peace treaty through the resolution of the territorial issue."

"President Bush threw support behind Japan for its position of expanding relations with the Soviet Union in a balanced manner," Kaifu said.

Bush and Kaifu were speaking at press conference outside Bush's vacation home in Maine after they met there for 85 minutes of talks on Soviet aid and trade questions.

Bush, listening to Kaifu's response, said he agreed with the Japanese Prime Minister's approach.

Japan remains reluctant to provide financial assistance to the Soviet Union because of a territorial dispute over four small islands off northern Japan.

Assistance to the Soviet Union is expected to top the agenda at the London economic summit of the world's seven major economic powers set for July 15-17.

The leaders of Japan, the United States, Canada, Britain, France, Germany, and Italy are to hold a group session with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev at the end of the London meetings.

On Japan's position on Soviet aid, the Japanese Prime Minister said, "To the extent the correct orientation of Mr. Gorbachev's perestroyka continues, or sustains, then the West should support the Soviets."

"We have been providing the maximum possible technical support to the Soviet Union," he said.

Bush said he has given Kaifu a copy of a letter from Gorbachev delivered by Soviet Foreign Minister Aleksandr Bessmertnykh and asking the seven leaders for help in converting military industries into civilian uses and promoting private investment, and for offers of technical assistance.

Kaifu and Bush, however, did not comment on the letter because they have not yet read it.

On the trade front, Bush pressured Kaifu to open the Japanese rice market.

"What we've got to do is lay all things on the table and enhance our efforts to bring a successful conclusion" to the stalled Uruguay Round of trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) by the end of this year, Bush said.

On the farm trade and rice issues, Bush said, "We've just determined to keep working on that. There is no question that there are differences."

Accepting an invitation to visit Japan, Bush said he will visit in late November.

The U.S. President will also travel to South Korea and Australia in late November, according to the White House.

Bush, calling the Japan-U.S. relationship "big, broad, and strong," said it transcends any single issue. "The United States has broad interest in Asia and Japan has broad interest (in the Americas), one that's helped us enormously in South America."

Earlier in the day, Kaifu and his wife Sachiyo arrived in Kennebunkport by helicopter from Boston where they stayed overnight. Only a handful of aides attended the Kaifu-Bush meeting.

The Kaifus will stay in Maine as Bush's overnight house guests

The Japanese Prime Minister will leave the United States for London on Friday after talking with Bush over breakfast.

Secretary Says Gulf Payments Issue Settled

OW1207052391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0441 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 11 KYODO—An additional 70 billion yen (500 million dollars) payment for the Persian Gulf War appears to have resolved a fray with the United States over Japan's contribution, the government spokesman said Friday.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto denied that the payment was intended to cover an alleged shortfall in Japan's earlier 9 billion dollar Gulf war pledge due to fluctuation of the exchange rate.

"There is a difference in opinion between Japan and the United States. Japan regards this as a contribution to cover new humanitarian issues," Sakamoto said.

Shortly before Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu departed Japan Wednesday for a meeting with U.S. President George Bush, the Japanese Government announced that it would provide the extra money to the Gulf Cooperation Council to help maintain stability in the Gulf in the aftermath of the war.

Most of the fresh money was expected to go to the United States to defray costs related to refugees, environmental destruction, and removing war debris.

Bush, addressing a joint news conference with Kaifu on Thursday at the President's Maine vacation home, told reporters that any differences that might have existed between the United States and Japan have been resolved."

Bush said he planned to tell Congress he was totally satisfied with Japan's 9 billion dollar contribution.

U.S. Treasury officials told Congress this spring they were seeking an additional 470 million dollars from Japan to cover the alleged shortfall.

Tokyo To Give $1 Million for Iraq Project

OW1207093591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0829 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 12 KYODO—The Japanese Government decided Friday to contribute an additional 1 million dollars to the United Nations Special Commission for destroying or inspecting Iraq's chemical and biological weapons, officials said.

This is in addition to the 1.5 million dollars Japan has already contributed for the initial activities of the commission, established on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution 687 on a formal ceasefire and withdrawal of coalition forces.

Japan's total contributions have now topped the United States, which has contributed 2 million dollars to the commission.

Official To Visit Beijing for Cambodia Talks

OW1207101791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1002 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 12 KYODO—A Japanese Foreign Ministry official will visit Beijing to meet four Cambodian faction delegates who are to attend informal peace talks slated for July 16-17, ministry sources said Friday.

Kazuyoshi Urabe, counselor of the ministry's Asian Affairs Bureau, plans to exchange views with representatives of the Supreme National Council (SNC) to make further efforts on a political settlement of the Cambodian issue, the sources said.

The SNC is a body for national reconciliation that includes all four warring Cambodian factions.

The Beijing meeting is regarded as a preparation for a full formal session of the SNC scheduled for August in Bangkok to discuss a UN-sponsored draft peace plan.

The sources also said Urabe will meet representatives from the five permanent member nations of the UN Security Council, who are scheduled to hold talks with the SNC members in Beijing during the two-day period.

Such a meeting will be the first between the SNC and the UN Security Council, they said.

Meanwhile, Richard Solomon, assistant secretary for the East Asian and Pacific Affairs Bureau of the U.S. State Department, is to visit Japan before the Beijing meeting to exchange views on the Cambodian issue with Sakutaro Tanino, chief of the Foreign Ministry's Asian Affairs Bureau, the sources said.

Tokyo Cautious About South African Sanctions

OW1107135291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1332 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 11 KYODO—The Japanese Government is exercising caution in moving to lift economic sanctions against South Africa, officials said Thursday.

The officials are considering when and how to remove sanctions against South Africa, imposed in the mid-1980s, following the lifting of U.S. sanctions against the country, the officials said.

They said the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) is concerned that a possible surge in Japan's trade with South Africa after sanctions are lifted could stir criticism from foreign governments and black groups.

To avoid such problems, the government will carefully watch trade trends and will try to prevent a sudden increase in trade with South Africa, they said.

Japan was censured in a 1987 United Nations resolution for becoming Pretoria's largest trading partner in the world that year.

Japan's trade with South Africa, which peaked at 4,122 million dollars in 1987, fell to 3,320 million dollars in 1990.

To end the sanctions against South Africa, Japan is considering lifting bans on iron and steel imports, reciprocal airline flights, and direct investment, as well as restrictions on gold coin imports, the officials said.

The ban on sales of four-wheel-drive motor vehicles and computers to army and police that help enforce apartheid is expected to remain in place.

Ministry Spokesman Urges DPRK To Resume Talks

OW1207131291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1233 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 12 KYODO—A Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman on Friday called on North Korea to take the initiative in resuming the two countries' stalemated normalization talks.

Deputy Press Secretary Sadaaki Numata also confirmed press reports that Eiji Yamamoto, deputy director of the ministry's Northeast Asia Division, is in Pyongyang to discuss resumption of the normalization talks.

Numata urged Pyongyang to open its nuclear facilities to international inspection and reply to Tokyo's inquiry about a Japanese woman suspected of being abducted to train a North Korean terrorist.

The last round of talks ended in discord in May, with Pyongyang demanding that Japan drop its request for information on the woman and apologize before resuming the talks.

Japan will not comply with either demand, a senior Foreign Ministry official said Thursday on condition of anonymity.

On the nuclear issue, Numata said North Korea refused a Japanese request during the May talks that it sign an accord providing for international inspection of its facilities.

Since then, Pyongyang has pledged it will sign the accord. But Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam has said North Korea will not allow actual inspection until the United States also allows outside inspection of the nuclear weapons it allegedly has in South Korea.

Experts in South Korea, Japan and the United States suspect that the nuclear complex in Yongbyong, about 90 kilometers north of Pyongyang, is intended to produce atomic weapons.

"We have every intention of resuming normalization talks with North Korea," Numata said.

"It was the North Korean side that abruptly ended the (May) session when we referred to the question of the missing Japanese woman."

The woman was allegedly forced to coach Kim Hyon-hui, convicted in the November 1987 bombing of a Korean Air jetliner, in the Japanese language and customs.

Kim, posing as a Japanese tourist, and an accomplice planted a bomb that killed all 115 people on board the Boeing 707.

Pro-Taiwan Group Head Resigns Over Visit

OW1107145191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1422 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 11 KYODO—The head of a Japanese parliamentarians group for friendship with Taiwan on Thursday criticized Taiwan for ignoring the group when planning a visit to Japan by President Li Teng-hui.

Shinji Sato, a member of the House of Representatives and the head of the group, told a news conference that he has tendered his resignation from the post in protest.

Sato, son of former Prime Minister Eisaku Sato, said the group had repeatedly told Taiwan that a visit by Li would be difficult.

However, Taipei relied on an influential Japanese politician, former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru, to try to realize the visit and left the group to do only procedural work without contacting it in advance, Sato said.

He said he met an official of the Association of East Asian Relations, a Taiwanese body promoting relations with Japan, on Wednesday and the official said Taiwan revealed Li's hope to visit Japan when Kanemaru visited Taipei in June, Sato said.

Kanemaru reportedly said at that time he would take responsibility for the political aspects of the issue and entrust the procedural work to the group.

Sato said the group had continuously told Taiwan of the difficulties of a presidential visit and had even explained the group's position to Kanemaru before his visit to Taiwan.

On Wednesday, a top Foreign Ministry official suggested it would be difficult to realize a visit by Li, citing the Japan-China Joint Declaration which states that there is only "one China."

'Satanic Verses' Translator Found Murdered

OW1207032291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0254 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Mito, July 12 KYODO—The Japanese translator of British author Salman Rushdie's Islam-condemned novel Satanic Verses was found stabbed to death on the campus of Tsukuba University in Ibaraki Prefecture outside Tokyo on Friday morning, police said.

Hitoshi Igarashi, 44, was an assistant professor of comparative culture at the university.

Author Rushdie, of British-Indian descent, was condemned to death by the late Iranian Islamic leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni shortly after the book appeared and has been in hiding for several years since that time.

Khomeyni and other Muslim religious leaders said the novel blasphemed the religion and should be punished by death.

So far, it is not known if Igarashi's connection with Satanic Verses was a factor in the stabbing which appeared to have sometime Thursday night or early Friday morning.

Finance Minister Remarks on Securities Scandal

OW1207063691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0325 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 12 KYODO—Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto said Friday the "entire" Finance Ministry will take part in the planned stricter supervision of the scandal-ridden securities industry.

Speaking at a press conference after a regular cabinet meeting, Hashimoto said, "We are considering the new overseeing system as a matter of concern for not only the securities division but for the entire ministry.

"In addition, it is necessary to make the new system clear to the eyes of the people," he said.

Following the recently uncovered scandals involving shady business practices by the "big four" securities companies, the ministry plans to boost its scrutiny and supervision over the brokerage sector through reorganization of the ministry's divisions and an increase of staff in charge of the industry, officials said.

The move is widely seen as circumventing growing calls both at home and overseas for the creation of an independent securities watchdog like the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), which the ministry apparently believes would weaken its authority over the securities sector.

Hashimoto, who later in the day leaves Japan to attend the annual summit meeting of seven major industrial nations in London beginning Monday, repeated his cautious views on financial aid to the Soviet Union.

"We still don't know what kind of reform package President (Mikhail) Gorbachev will bring to the meeting. It will depend on who will accompany the president to London," he said.

Suspended Brokerages Excluded From Bond Buying

OW1107140791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1323 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 11 KYODO—The Bank of Japan (BOJ) Thursday excluded from its "rinban" bond-buying operation the big four securities houses now under four-day suspension of trading because of the stock scandal.

The central bank earlier in the day notified 18 banks and seven brokerage houses of its intention to buy 50 billion yen in government issued bonds—a so-called "rinban" operation.

The big four—Nomura, Daiwa, Nikko, and Yamaichi securities companies—were not notified about the operation, BOJ officials said.

"The four securities houses are currently suspending their business activities for corporate clients and, in our judgment, are not in a position to receive orders," said a BOJ official.

"Once their suspension period is up, we will, of course, resume business with them," he said.

The BOJ usually purchases the bonds from 25 banks and securities houses out of a total 50 to inject liquidity into the financial markets. The operation normally is done three times a month.

On Monday, the Ministry of Finance (MOF) ordered Japan's top four securities houses to suspend business transactions with their corporate clients for four trading days ending next Monday.

The ministry directive was issued as punishment for the firms' lavish compensation to favored institutional clients for losses incurred on the bond and stock markets.

In the past, the central bank has always made some of its rinban purchases from at least one of the big four.

In a related move, Japan Steel Works Ltd. and Nakayama Steel Works Ltd. said Thursday they would put off a public offering of their dollar-denominated warrant bonds. They made the decision because their lead manager, Nomura, is currently under suspension, they said.

The two steel firms said they will decide on a date for the warrant sale shortly after Monday, when Nomura's suspension period ends.

Toa Steel Co., which had postponed a public offering of its warrants for the same reason, has decided to put them up for sale July 19.

LDP Official Remarks on Political Reform

OW1207135891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1259 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 12 KYODO—Tsutomu Hata, chairman of the Election System Research Council of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], said Friday that negotiations over the LDP's political reform bills in a coming extraordinary Diet session will be tough and troublesome.

Hata made his pessimistic comment at a meeting of editors from television and radio stations around Japan organized by KYODO news service.

He said the ruling party has a limited framework for negotiations, as the LDP's Executive Council approved the political reform bills on the condition that major changes would be confirmed by the council.

But Hata said the bills' fate depends on whether they can win the support of the people.

The LDP gave its final approval Tuesday to a package of political reform bills aimed at introducing a single-seat constituency system for the powerful House of Representatives. The cabinet gave its go- ahead the next day.

However, political observers believe there is little chance of the measures being enacted because of deep antagonism between the party leadership and LDP members who fear the new system would cost them their seats.

All opposition parties have also vowed to fight the proposals, arguing that the introduction of the single-seat electoral system is designed to keep the LDP in power indefinitely.

LDP's council members finally approved the bills after council chairman Takeo Nishioka said party members would be allowed to freely debate the measures in the Diet.

Construction Ministry Urges Decentralization

OW1207031991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0120 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 12 KYODO—The government should ease the centralization of Tokyo so as to improve national living standards to the level of Western advanced nations, the Construction Ministry said in an annual white paper released Friday.

In the paper, presented to the morning cabinet meeting, the ministry described the years until 2000 as a "precious decade" for Japan to improve housing and social capital as its population ages.

If the public investment program that began this year proceeds as scheduled, it said, Japan's per capita housing area will catch up with that of Britain's and its sewage system will be as widespread as that of the United States.

To improve living conditions, the ministry said cooperation between national and local governments is essential.

Japan promised last year to spend 430 trillion yen over the next decade on public works projects as part of the Structural Impediments Initiative (SII) agreement with the United States.

Further, the ministry warned that if centralization in Tokyo continues, it will be difficult for both Tokyo and outlying communities to create a pleasant living space.

The paper noted that income in the Tokyo area is estimated to be 36.4 percent higher than in smaller communities but that long commuting distances and higher rents reduce that to 8.1 percent higher in real terms.

The government also must improve living conditions in communities with 500,000 residents or more and come up with a plan to encourage young adults to stay in small towns, the report said.

The ministry did not analyze the effect of the concentration of business headquarters in Tokyo.

Ministry To Help Firms in USSR, East Europe

OW1107144091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1419 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 11 KYODO—The Labor Ministry has decided to help Japanese companies send representatives to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe to study business conditions and practices to prepare to do business in those countries, ministry officials said Thursday.

The ministry so far has helped Japanese businesses foster overseas training programs in Asian countries by paying half of their travel expenses and wages, the officials said.

This time the ministry is going to apply the system to training Japanese business employees in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

According to a survey by the Japan Association of Corporate Executives, Japanese enterprises are hesistant about starting business, either alone or with local enterprises, in the Soviet Union or Eastern European countries because of the lack of business know-how and information about the region.

Only 26 Japanese businesses have invested in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe so far, the association said.

The Labor Ministry thinks it necessary for Japanese businesses to send representatives to those countries to study the present state and practices of local businesses to build a corps of technical training personnel there, the officials said.

Firms React 'Calmly' to U.S. Digital Deal

OW1207063491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0543 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 12 KYODO—Japanese companies making digital audio equipment reacted calmly Friday to an agreement between the U.S. music and electronics industries on royalties payments.

On Thursday, U.S. musicians' unions and electronics manufacturers announced a royalties deal under which makers of digital tape recording equipment and blank tapes will pay royalties to songwriters, record companies, and music publishers to compensate them for sales lost to home recordings on digital audio recorders.

"The way of dealing with the issue is different by country," said an official at the Electronic Industries Association of Japan, which groups makers of digital audio equipment.

But the official was quick to say the U.S. move may lead to a similar agreement between makers of the equipment and music companies in Japan.

An official at a major eletronics company making digital audio tape recorders welcomed the U.S. royalties deal, saying it would boost sales of the recorders by prodding record companies to release music in the digital tape format.

"As far as digital tape recorders are concerned, sales of such equipment and related tapes have been slack so far because of the lack of software. But the deal could pave the way for widespread marketing of digital tape recorders," the official noted.

Recordings on digital tape are virtually indistinguishable from master recordings, allowing near-perfect copies of compact discs and prerecorded tapes. The music industry had complained the technology would lead to widespread piracy.

Honda, Mazda To Strengthen Research Operations

OW1207012591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0008 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 12 KYODO—Honda Motor Co. and Mazda Motor Corp. plan to expand research and development operations in the United States, the NIHON KOGYO SHIMBUN newspaper reported Friday.

The industrial daily said the Japanese auto manufacturers will more than triple their research staff in the U.S. to support the development of new models for the market there and at the same time position themselves to use more parts manufactured by U.S. parts makers.

Mazda will triple its research and development staff to 600 over the next three years, while Honda will boost its staff to 1,000, up from the present 340, by the late 1990s, the report said.

Other Japanese automakers such as Nissan Motor Co. and Toyota Motor Corp. have already planned to increase local research staff, hoping to help calm trade friction, the paper said.

Mongolia

Minister Announces Special Economic Zones Plan

OW1007183391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1454 GMT 10 Jul 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, July 10 KYODO—Mongolia plans to establish six or seven special economic zones, like China's special economic zones, to encourage investment from abroad, Foreign Minister Tserenpiliyn Gombosuren told Japanese journalists Wednesday.

The planned zones will be located close to the Mongolia-China border and Mongolia plans to offer better conditions to foreign investors than those in China, he said in a meeting with a group from the Japan Newspaper Publishers and Editors Association.

Mongolia passed a law on foreign investment in mid-1990 but has received no approach from foreign investors so far due mainly to its insufficient infrastructure.

President, Others Lay Wreaths at Monument

OW1207093091 Ulaanbaatar Radio Ulaanbaatar in English 0910 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] A ceremony of laying wreaths to the monument of Damdiny Sukhe Bator, leader of the 1921 people's revolution in Mongolia, took place in the central square in Ulaanbaatar on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the 1921 people's revolution.

The wreaths were laid by President of Mongolia Punsalmaagiyn Ochirbat, the Great People's Hural, the State Small Hural, the Government, the Defense Ministry, the Political Board of the Mongolian People's Army, the Executive Committee of Mongolian Veterans Union, as well as by state and government delegation from the Soviet Union and the government delegation from China, which are taking part in the national day celebrations, and by diplomatic missions in Ulaanbaatar.

Military Parade, Festival Mark National Day

OW1207092591 Ulaanbaatar Radio Ulaanbaatar in English 0910 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] The entire Mongolian people marked the 70th anniversary of the 1921 people's revolution. Today a military parade marched through the center of Suhbaatar Square in Ulaanbaatar. The parade was followed by [words indistinct] and then a ceremony of opening Nadom, the ceremonial games [words indistinct] took place at the central stadium in Ulaanbaatar.

Traditionally (?412) strongest wrestlers, hundreds of archers, and thousands of horsemen are taking part in the Nadom games—national wrestling, archery, and horse racing. This year's Nadom has also included national [words indistinct] games.

North Korea

South Criticized for Student Leader's Arrest

SK1207070891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0542 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 12 (KCNA)—Gangsters of the South Korean puppet security planning board July 8 made a surprise attack on the shelter of Chondaehyop [National Council of University Student Representatives] leading members and arrested 8 students including Chairman Kim Chong-sik.

MINJU CHOSON today says in a commentary that their arrest is a fascist suppression of the patriotic, pro-reunification and democratic forces in South Korea.

The puppets announced that the chairman of Chondaehyop and the chairman of its committee for national reunification worked out "a plan for students' visit to the North" after "a confab" with the North and have made preparations for several months, the news analyst points out, and goes on:

It goes without saying that this is an anti-national, anti-democratic and anti-reunification smear propaganda to crack down upon Chondaehyop by branding it as an "organisation profiting the enemy" linked with the North.

No Tae-u group, upset by the vigorous struggle of students for independence, democracy and reunification which is gaining momentum after the murder of student Kang Kyong-tae in South Korea, is trying to block their just struggle and bolster up the fascist rule shaking to the foundations by arresting student Kim Chong-sik and other leading members of Chondaehyop.

The No group should stop brutal fascist suppression at once and immediately release all the political prisoners including student Kim Chong-sik who has been illegally arrested.

Chondaehyop Members Announce Date of Talks

SK1207051291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0445 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 12 (KCNA)—Students Song Yong-sung and Pak Song-hui, delegates of the National Council of Student Representatives (Chondaehyop) of South Korea staying in Berlin, in a statement on July 10 announced that the working-level talks of delegates of students of the

North, the South and overseas sides for the grand reunification festival of students in the North, the South and abroad would be held in Berlin on July 20, according to a report.

In the statement, they said that the Chondaehyop sent them to Berlin beforehand because it foresaw the rupture of the working-level talks at Panmunjom slated on July 7.

Barring of Pannational Rally Opening Decried

*SK1207064791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0511 GMT 12 Jul 91*

[Text] Pyongyang July 12 (KCNA)— The chief of the South Korean "Unification Board," upon receiving our telephone message on the participation in the second preparatory meeting for the pan-national rally (PNR) scheduled in Seoul, lost no time in stating Wednesday that the opening of the PNR "cannot be approved" as it is part of the "activities to overthrow the regime in South Korea" and, accordingly, the visit of the North side's delegation to Seoul "cannot be allowed."

This is very provocative utterances that go beyond the extent of impudence and insolence, NODONG SINMUN says in a commentary today.

The news analyst notes:

The South Korean chief executive, during his recent overseas trip, talked big about "co-sponsorship" of the August 15 liberation day celebration by the North and the South and "permission of South Korean visit" by personages of various circles from the North and, back in South Korea, he blared that he would take "dramatic steps" for the "improvement of the relations with the North" and for reunification.

Then, why do they refuse to allow the opening of the PNR for the reunification of the country and to permit the participation of our side's delegation to the meeting for its preparation?

Such faithless act as desperately blocking the opening of the PNR beneficial to reunification, going back today on the words they uttered yesterday, is an anti-national, anti-reunification criminal act that can be done only by those who pursue confrontation and division, hating national reconciliation and unity and reunification.

It has become all the clearer that the "reconciliation," "improvement of North-South relations" and "dramatic steps for reunification" on the lips of the South Korean authorities are momentary stimulus and tongue-wagging to pull the wool over the eyes of the people and conceal their splittist color.

Still more grave is that the South side insults the PNR for national reunification as part of the "activities to overthrow the regime of the South."

Such deeds and words of the puppets are a challenge to and mockery of the desire of the fellow countrymen for reunification. They only glaringly reveal to the world their true color as splittists who fear the fellow countrymen and do not want national reconciliation and unity and the peaceful reunification of the country.

A MINJU CHOSON analyst demands that the South Korean authorities ensure all conditions for the unhindered participation of the delegations of the North and overseas sides in the second preparatory meeting of the Seoul pan-national rally.

Message Phoned to South on Pannational Rally

*SK1207104891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1031 GMT 12 Jul 91*

[Text] Pyongyang July 12 (KCNA)—Yun Ki-pok, chairman of the North side's headquarters of the Pan-Korean Alliance for National Reunification (Pomminnyon), today sent a telephone message to Choe Ho-chung, "deputy prime minister and unification minister" of South Korea, notifying him again that the North side's delegation would go to Panmunjom at ten A.M. July 17 as scheduled to participate in the Seoul preparatory meeting for the second pan-national rally.

The message urged the South side once again to promptly take measures to open the door so that the North side's delegates can participate in the Seoul preparatory meeting on July 18.

At a time when the authorities of the North and the South meet, politicians contact each other, men of culture and art hold festivals together and sportsmen form unified teams to demonstrate to the world the resourcefulness of the nation and the will for reunification, no one can be justified with any excuse in blocking people in the North, the South and overseas from sitting together for the noble cause of national reunification, the message noted, and said:

We do not want the South Korean authorities to be excluded from the nationwide rally but hope that they willingly participate in the nation's reunification festival.

If the "proposal to the North" to be published by the South side on July 15 is truly intended to celebrate the "liberation day" of August 15, it has no ground to refuse to allow the pan-national rally to be held in celebration of the 46th anniversary of the August 15 liberation.

South Urged To Allow Delegates To Go to Seoul

*SK1207103091 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0815 GMT 12 Jul 91*

[Telephone message from Yun Ki-pok, chairman of the Headquarters of North Side of Pannational Alliance for National Reunification, to South Korean Deputy Prime Minister and Unification Minister on 12 July—read by announcer]

[Text] To Choe Ho-chung, deputy prime minister and unification minister of the ROK:

I sent a telephone message to you on 10 July in connection with the issue of attendance of our side's delegation in the second preparatory meeting for 15 August Seoul pannational rally.

However, to our surprise, your side's Red Cross society on 11 July sent a so-called reply message to us. Your act of asking someone else to send a reply, which you yourself should do, on your behalf, is an unjust act running counter to even basic etiquette.

First of all, I recognize that such an act by you is an extremely insincere act in view of previous instances of North-South relations. I express deep regret for this.

In the reply message, your side talked about the so-called qualifications of the delegates, illegal organization and so forth. Your side even put forward the issue of agreement, and stated that participation of our side's delegation in a Seoul preparatory meeting cannot be accepted.

Your side's attitude merely showed an excuse for blocking by all means the 1991 Seoul pannational rally, which will be held under the sponsorship of the Pannational Alliance for National Reunification [PANR]—a pannational body for reunification movement of all fellow countrymen in the North, the South and overseas organized by reflecting the desire of all the people for reunification—being frightened by the position of the PANR.

The authorities in your side officially recognized last year the 15 August pannational rally and the second round of the Seoul tripartite working-level conference for preparations of this rally, and permitted the delegates from the overseas side to visit Seoul. Your side's authorities also approved [yongin] the visit of our side's delegation to Seoul.

However, this year, your side took an inconsistent and negative attitude while regarding as heretics [idansihada] the same figures who held a meeting last year and who are coming to this meeting with the same purpose. This only shows that your side is furthermore retreating this year from the position on the reunification issue over the last year.

At a time when the persons in authority in the North and the South meet each other, politicians contact, artists and figures from cultural field jointly hold festivals, and sportsmen demonstrated national wisdom and will for reunification to the entire world by forming a single team, the act of blocking fellow countrymen in the North, the South and overseas from sitting face to face for the sacred cause of the nation cannot be justified by any excuse.

The pannational rally is not a rally designed to oppose and isolate someone else but is a great national meeting where the representatives from all walks of life in the North, the South and overseas gather together to discuss the issue of guaranteeing peace of the nation and expediting the national reunification.

We do not want the South Korean authorities to be excluded from this pannational meeting. We expect that they will willingly join in this national festival.

I consider that if the so-called northward proposal which your side is reported to make public on 15 July is truly aimed at celebrating the 15 August national liberation day, your side has no reason for not allowing the pannational rally to convene in order to celebrate the 46th anniversary of the 15 August national liberation day.

The issue of national reunification is an important question related to the destiny of all members of our country. Therefore, the act of drawing a distinction between a meeting as appropriate and the other as not appropriate in resolving the question of national reunification and between the people as eligible for attending and others as figures to be rejected should not be tolerated.

If your side is truly interested in national harmony and reunification, your side should assume the forward-looking position and discard such unreasonable acts as not allowing this year the issues that were allowed last year. I call on your side once again to immediately take deserved steps to open the door so that our side's delegation can attend the 18 July Seoul preparatory meeting for the second pannational rally.

I again inform you that our side's delegation will go to Panmunjom at 1000 on 17 July in order to proceed to Seoul as planned.

[Signed] Yun Ki-pok
Chairman of the Headquarters of North Side
PANR
[Dated] 12 July 1991

Trade Figures Show South Economy in 'Crisis'

SK1007151991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1504 GMT 10 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 10 (KCNA)—A South Korean newspaper reported that the trade deficits of South Korea during the first half of this year amounted to 6,341 million dollars.

This means an increase of 1,513 million dollars up on the trade deficits of last year.

This state of trade in South Korea where exports are regarded as a "tractor" of the economy shows that the South Korean economy is undergoing a crisis.

Photographs of Kim Chong-il Reported in Seoul

SK1207111191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1000 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 12 (KCNA)— Photographs of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il were reportedly found distributed in different places of Seoul, adding fuel to the citizens' feelings of reverence for him.

Upon seeing his august name and photograph, a certain Kim residing in West Gate District, Seoul, said:

Mr. Kim Chong-il is a great master of thought and theory and genius of leadership who has developed and enriched the man-centred chuche idea founded by President Kim Il-song and built a people's paradise by applying it to the reality of the North.

An inhabitant in Songbuk District surnamed Yi said:

The dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il has performed great feats for the country and the nation, for the times and mankind with his brilliant wisdom, wise leadership and noble virtues.

A Choe in Chongro District said:

The tomorrow of a reunified country and eternal happiness of the nation lie in holding in high esteem and following the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il eternally as the lodestar of the nation.

Bright is the future of our nation under his guidance.

Various Groups Support Korean Reunification

SK1207111691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1007 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 12 (KCNA)—World public circles expressed solidarity with the Korean people in their struggle for a peaceful reunification of the country on the occasion of the June 25-July 27 month of anti-U.S. joint struggle.

A solidarity letter from the secretariat of the International Union of Students to the Korean Students Committee pointed out that for peace in Korea and her peaceful reunification, it is important to eliminate the state of military and political confrontation between the North and the South and achieve national reconciliation and build confidence through multi-channelled contacts and exchanges including the North-South student talks.

In this aspect, we consider it necessary to adopt a nonaggression declaration between the North and the South, get the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons withdrawn from South Korea and create a nuclear-free, peace zone on the Korean peninsula, the letter stressed.

The Portugal-Korea Friendship Association in a statement expressed full support to the proposal for founding a democratic confederal republic of Koryo advanced by President Kim Il-song, saying: We consider that this is a very just proposal which most correctly reflects the realities of Korea.

If the peaceful reunification of Korea is to be achieved, a nonaggression declaration must be adopted between the North and the South and a peace agreement signed between the DPRK and the United States.

The Dominican Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification in a statement bitterly denounced the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean ruling group who are claiming a "nuclear inspection" of the northern half of Korea.

The nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea are intended to attack the DPRK and the Asian nations, the statement said, and expressed full support to the peace-loving stand of the DPRK Government against the production, introduction and deployment of nuclear weapons.

SKNDF Releases Statement on No's U.S. Trip

SK1207054591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0452 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 12 (KCNA)—The South Korean National Democratic Front [SKNDF] (Hanminjon) denounced No Tae-u's trip to the United States as an unpardonable anti-national, anti-reunification treacherous tour in which he slung mud at the dignity of the nation, going against peace and reunification of the country and bartering away the interests of the South Korean people, according to Radio Voice of National Salvation from Seoul.

In a statement released on July 8, the Hanminjon spokesman noted that No Tae-u during his visit to the United States begged the "active help" of the U.S. masters in achieving "reunification orchestrated by South Korea," saying he expected that "the worldwide changes will reach the Korean peninsula".

The scheme to degrade the North, a powerful independent socialist country recognised by the world, to a colony like the southern society by blowing the wind of "freedom" into it is a foolish dream which cannot be realised today or tomorrow, the statement said, and continued:

The concept of "unification by absorption" aimed at "unification by prevailing over communism" will result in bringing the confrontation within the nation to the extreme pitch and spelling irrevocable holocaust of war to this land.

At the "talks" with Bush, No Tae-u claimed an unconditional "nuclear inspection" of the North. This was not for peace on the Korean peninsula but was a premeditated war provocation move to find a pretext to start a war against the North.

No entreated his master for the continued presence of the U.S. troops in South Korea, vowing to bear additional burden for their upkeep. This shows how zealously he is executing the aggressive nuclear war policy of the U.S. imperialists.

No's trip to the United States was a criminal tour run through with treachery against the purpose and desire of the 70 million fellow countrymen for peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula.

We strongly demand that the United States and the No Tae-u group stop anti-reunification, anti-peace war provocation moves unconditionally and immediately, open the nuclear bases of the U.S. troops in South Korea to the public and accede to a fair simultaneous inspection of the North and the South, the statement said.

U.S., South Military Exercises 8, 9 Jul Reported

SK1107053091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0508 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 11 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists staged joint aerial and ground strike, ground support and other large- scale aerial military exercises against the North in the skies above Anmyon Islet, Onyang and Sosan on July 8 and 9 with the mobilisation of over 310 fighter-bombers of various types based in the U.S. mainland and the Pacific and belonging to the U.S. Seventh Airforce in South Korea and the puppet airforce, according to military sources.

Meanwhile, the South Korean puppets incited a war fever, firing more than 120 shells with 105 mm guns toward a spot close to the Military Demarcation Line (MDL) from the area of Paju County near the MDL on July 8 and 9.

In this period, they fired a volley of more than 250 bullets by large-calibre machineguns in the area of Yonchon County toward near the Demilitarized Zone of the MDL. On July 8, armed bandits wormed into Manu-ri, Paju County, and frantically fired as many as 160 bullets by M-16 automatic rifles toward the lower reaches of the river Nimjin in front of us.

U.S. Paper Urges Contact With Pyongyang

SK1107102691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1005 GMT 11 Jul 91

["Time Has Come for the United States To Hold High-Level Contact Directly With Pyongyang"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang July 11 (KCNA)—The U.S. paper WASHINGTON POST June 30 carried an article by Don Oberdofer, its reporter who had visited the DPRK some time ago.

Noting that the United States is now faced with a grave challenge in Asia, the paper urged the U.S. Administration to change its Asia policy.

Referring to the change of the international situation, the paper said that it could not be understood why the United States alone is keeping a wide berth of Pyongyang.

The paper contended that the United States must remove the factor of threat from the Korean peninsula, the most dangerous spot in East Asia and, in this sense, the time has come for the U.S. to have a high-level contact directly with Pyongyang.

Jiang Zemin Eulogizes CPC Anniversary

SK1207003091 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0100 GMT 3 Jul 91

[Text] Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Communist Party of China [CPC] Central Committee, delivered a speech in a celebration to mark the 70th anniversary of the CPC's founding.

Mentioning the struggle carried on by the CPC over the past 70 years in his speech, Comrade Jiang Zemin noted:

Over the past 70 years, our party has opened new chapters in history in the course of guiding the Chinese people, making itself stronger with the passage of time. During this period, Marxism has attained colossal successes in China.

The CPC was brought into being in 1921. Our party, after making clear that it had assumed socialism and communism as its objective, advanced revolutionary programs aimed at realizing socialism by new democratic means. Because of this, our party has created a great and new era of historic proportions in the East, in the process of guiding many peoples of various ethnic backgrounds.

Over the past 70 years, our party has done much in hastening the advancement of Chinese society by guiding many peoples of various ethnic background.

Generally speaking, three major successes have been accomplished.

First, with the new democratic revolution undertaking the task of ending imperialism and feudalism, the history of China as a semi-colonial and semi-feudalistic society has been brought to an end.

Second, with the exploitive system and exploiting class liquidated, the socialist system was built.

Third, a road capable of building socialism with Chinese characteristics and, ultimately, of realizing the socialist modernization was opened.

These three major successes have brought about complete changes in China.

Availing myself of this opportunity of celebrating the 70th anniversary of the CPC's founding, we pay our highest form of respect to the old, fallen proletarian revolutionaries, including Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai, Liu Shaoqi, and Zhu De, who made staggering contributions to the Chinese revolution and national construction, cherishing the memory of them deep in our hearts.

We look back upon the fallen revolutionary fighters who heroically laid down their lives for the founding of a new China, for its defense and construction.

We also treasure our memory of all the forerunners who had devoted themselves to the liberation of the Chinese people and to all the other progressive causes since the opium war in 1840.

The history of the past 70 years proves that only when we are advancing along the socialist path under the leadership of the CPC can our country become mighty, achieve prosperity, make our people wealthy and prosperous, and enjoy a happy life.

Also, the past 70 years shows that our party, armed with Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought, as well as with revolutionary creative spirit, is capable of maintaining its independence and [words indistinct].

Even while going through a host of indescribable difficulties, our party never flinched and has become more powerful as a result of the tests it has undergone.

Our party has proved itself to be a great, glorious, and correct party. In the struggle that has continued for over the past 70 years, our party has acquired rich experiences.

The essence of this experience boils down to one point: We should advance along a road of our own choice, coupling the basic Marxist principles with the actual realities of the Chinese revolution and construction.

The history of our party shows that if we are to attain successes in our cause without interruption, it is imperative to combine the basic Marxist principles with the actual conditions of China and decide the directions, strategy, and tactics suitable for the Chinese characteristics after analyzing the experience scientifically.

Maoism is a combination of the essence of Marxism-Leninism with the reality of the Chinese revolution, as well as the crystallization of the Chinese communists' collective wisdom.

Comrade Mao Zedong has set a brilliant example in applying these principles to reality. Comrade Mao Zedong was a great leader of the CPC and various ethnic peoples of China. He was also a great Marxist, proletarian revolutionary, strategist, and theoretician.

The CPC Central Committee, with Comrade Deng Xiaoping honored at its heart, fully testifies to Comrade Mao Zedong's accomplishments of historical proportions and to Mao's guiding position.

This is of profound significance in guaranteeing the fact that the party and the state will chart a correct path in all areas, evaluating the history of the party and people correctly.

People of various ethnic backgrounds in China will always remember Comrade Mao Zedong's great accomplishments.

Comrade Deng Xiaoping is an outstanding warrior who is defending, maintaining, and developing Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong thought. Eternally upholding the banner of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong thought, the Chinese Communists will carry out to the end the cause cultivated by the old proletarian revolutionaries.

In referring to the noble duties assigned to the Chinese Communists at present, Comrade Jiang Zemin pointed out: The noble duties assigned to the Chinese Communists at present include the task of turning China into a prosperous, democratic, culturally and ideological developed, and modern socialist country with Chinese characteristics by adhering to the party's basic lines, uniting and leading our people of various ethnic origins, being self-reliant, and waging an arduous struggle. The urgent task is to carry out proposals to map out the following: The 10-Year Plan and the Eighth Five-Year Plan adopted at the Seventh Plenum of the 13th CPC Central Committee; related programs decided at the fourth meeting of the seventh national people's congress; and the strategic goals of the second-stage socialist modernization construction. It is urgent to build a strong basis for fulfilling the strategic goals of the third-stage construction by the middle of the next century.

Since the Third Plenum of the 11th CPC Central Committee, our party, based upon its correct evaluation of actual reality in the country, has established the basic lines of maintaining the four cardinal principles, continuing to make reforms and open up, concentrating on economic development. The Seventh Plenum of the 13th CPC Central Committee examined the experiences from carrying out these basic lines and mapped out 12 principles for building socialism with Chinese characteristics. This shows that the party is thoroughly perceiving the principles for socialist modernization. Briefly speaking, the party's basic lines and the 12 principles illustrate a need to build a socialist economy, political system, and culture with Chinese characteristics through the self-renovation and self-development of the socialist system in order to hasten the endless increase of productivity and social progress in all fields and to achieve socialist modernization.

A socialist economy with Chinese characteristics calls on us to maintain the socialist collective ownership of the means of production as a basic form of ownership and to allow and encourage reasonable development in other economic fields. We must neither adopt a completely collective ownership system without considering the level of the development of production capabilities nor implement a private ownership system by abolishing the leading position of the collective ownership-based economy. The socialist productive relations based upon the collective ownership of the means of production can fundamentally overcome basic contradictions between private ownership of the means of production, prevalent in the capitalist production methods, and socialization of the means of production.

If the collective ownership of the means of production is abandoned, the economic basis of socialism will be weakened. Therefore, this will clearly hurt all the people's basic interests and obliterate socialism. To further develop the production capabilities at present, we must, first of all, consolidate the collective ownership of the socialist economy.

To develop the socialist political system with Chinese characteristics, we must maintain the people's democratic dictatorship led by the working class and based upon a worker-peasant alliance. We must never weaken or abandon the popular democratic dictatorship. We must not turn to the parliamentary system of the West but maintain and complete the people's congress system. We must also maintain the multiparty cooperation system and the political consultation system led by the CPC.

We must neither weaken nor negate the Communist Party's leadership nor introduce the Western-style multiparty system. We must strongly adhere to these basic demands of the socialist political system with Chinese characteristics, endlessly strengthen socialist democracy, improve law and order, and promote a stable, unified, and vigorous political phase to ensure that the people carry out their activities as the masters of the country and that the state enjoys enduring peace and stability. Popular democratic dictatorship means a combination of the system of implementing democracy for the people and the system of implementing dictatorship against the people's enemy.

Under the CPC's leadership, the workers, peasants, intellectuals, and people from all other social strata are operating the country as its masters and enjoying broad-based democratic rights. This is the essence of our socialist democracy and a fundamental difference between our socialist democracy and the capitalist democracy. We must continuously adhere to socialist democracy without a hitch and further strengthen the people's sense of responsibility as the masters of the country.

Popular democratic dictatorship, which is, in principle, proletarian dictatorship, is as important as the other three of the four cardinal principles. In our country, a class struggle to a certain extent will occur for a long time. Because hostile international forces intent on overthrowing our socialist system still remain, we must attach great significance to the dictatorial function of the people's (?regime). This is shown by the chaos and antireunification riot which took place in late spring in 1989, and we must never forget the historic lesson which this political disturbance, which created an ideological confusion, taught. Considering Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong thought as a guiding principle is basic to building a socialist society with Chinese characteristics. That is, pluralism must not be adopted as a guiding idea. Ideas that rot the people's hearts, create confusion in society, and run counter to socialism must never be allowed to spread. We must inherit our nation's excellent cultural tradition and boundlessly display the unique spirits of the era of socialism.

The education of our people must include an indoctrination not only on the modern and pre-modern history of China and today's situation but also on patriotism, collectivism, socialist ideas, and communist ideals. We must enhance our pride in the Chinese nation, have confidence, and promote the spirit of self-reliance.

Our party has always attached great significance to ideological work. How well we carry out this work directly determines whether we will succeed in carrying out the socialist cause. Ideology is an important matter over which those who are making efforts to bring a peaceful transformation in China and those who are struggling against this are fighting. Bourgeois liberalism contradicts the four cardinal principles, and a struggle between these two is a political struggle over whether the communist party's leadership will be maintained or abandoned and over whether the socialist road will be maintained or abandoned. Using powerful and convincing materials, party committees of various levels must endlessly explain to the people why they must adhere to the four cardinal principles and oppose bourgeois liberalism.

We are increasing productivity under the socialist system and, therefore, must make good use of the superiority of socialism to the utmost in this process. We must always have in mind the great influence that the human spirit exercises upon the material world, the influence that man's social consciousness exercises upon his social existence, the influence that productive relations exercise upon productivity, and the influence that the upper structure, that is, politics, exercises upon the economy. We must take to heart the lesson we learned when we stressed only material progress in recent years and made light of cultural and ideological progress. We must also simultaneously push ahead with material, cultural and ideological progress, and fully display the virtue of attaching significance to political ideological work, which is one of our party's strengths. In this way, we must ensure that the socialist economy, socialist political system, and socialist society with Chinese characteristics be developed harmoniously.

Because we are building the socialist economy, political system, and society with Chinese characteristics, we must adhere to the four cardinal principles and maintain the policy of wholesome reforms and opening up.

The Chinese Communists' historical mission is to devote themselves to the great reformist cause and to provide good prospects, great vitality, and guarantees to ensure that political development and socialist progress be achieved in all the fields. There are two fundamentally different ideas on reforms and opening up: They are the idea of reforming and opening up based on the four cardinal principles or the idea advocated by bourgeois liberalism which intends to turn China capitalist. We must differentiate one from the other.

The People's Liberation Army [PLA] that follows our party's leadership is a strong backbone of the dictatorship of the people's democracy, a fortress strong as steel, defending the socialist fatherland, and an important force in building socialism with Chinese characteristcs. Without the PLA, the people could not have anything at all.

Under the present situation, further strengthening the Army and national defense is of profound strategic significance in maintaining durable peace and security and in ensuring smooth socialist modernization.

The party should perfectly maintain its absolute leadership over the Army and ensure that it is highly centrally controlled and always united.

With the economic progress and the increase of national strength, we should continually modernize the Army's equipment. Arms are an important element in war, but they are not a determining element. What is determing is the men who have high political consciousness, morale, and modern military technology. Therefore, we should make further efforts to intensify ideological and political work and military training so that all our soldiers become properly equipped with political qualifications and military ability.

To build socialism with Chinese characteristics, we need a peaceful international environment. In international affairs, we will never seek hegemonism, we will resolutely oppose domination and power politics, and we will oppose the use of force and the threat of force. We maintain that international disputes should be resolved by peaceful means and negotiations to preserve world peace.

We will resolutely defend the fundamental interest of the Chinese people and defend the sovereignty of the state and the dignity of the nation. We will allow no one to interfere in China's internal affairs. As we have always done in the past, we support developing economic and technological cooperation and trade with all countries based on equality and mutual benefit. In dealing with our relations with the political parties of other countries, we will continue to adhere to the principles of independence, complete equality, mutual respect, and non-interference in internal affairs.

In referring to the intensification of party building, Jiang Zemin noted: The essence of building socialism with Chinese characteristics is to improve the leadership of the communist party. Without the party, which has high political awareness, rigorous discipline, and the spirit of self-sacrifice—the party that truly represents and unites the people—it would be absolutely impossible to unite society, in a large country like China, or to unite all the forces representing the 1.1 billion people.

Through the long course of struggle, all the Chinese nationalities have come to be aware of the profound truth that they should be led by the CPC. At present, the socialist cause of the world is undergoing a series of grave frustrations. However, this is only a transient phenomenon of history. Over the past 70 years, our party has overcome a countless number of trials and difficulties while leading all the Chinese nationalities. No difficulties or enemies have ever overwhelmed us. On the contrary, we have overwhelmed them. We, the members of the CPC, are convinced that the transient difficulties and frustrations which socialism is experiencing in the course of its progress will not and cannot block the continuous development of socialism.

As it has done in the past, the CPC will maintain Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong thought and lead the Chinese people along the road of socialist construction with Chinese characteristics.

For better party building, we should be clearly and comprehensively aware of the situation we are facing in party building and the party's present situation. Peaceful evolution and the bourgeois liberalization trend are a present threat to China's independence, sovereignty, construction, reform, and opening. In the face of the stern trial, we should comprehensively intensify party building in close conjunction with the party's political line and political task, always maintain the party's nature as the forerunner of the working class and its devotion to serve the people, have firm faith in socialism and a firm belief in communist ideals, build walls as strong as steel to defend against the peaceful evolution by the hostile forces at home and abroad, build the party into a stronger key force that leads the people of all nationalities across the country and realizes the socialist modernization, and ensure that the party better shoulders its great mission given by history.

First, we should make efforts to enhance the standard of Marxism of the entire party membership. We should always intensively conduct the indoctrination on Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong thought for the entire party. The party cadres, especially high- and middle-level cadres, should make efforts to study and learn the basic theories of Marxism and Mao Zedong thought, intensify the investigation and research in close conjunction with practice, be deeply aware of and grasp China's prevailing situation, and seriously study and solve the political, economic, ideological, and cultural problems—the important problems at the present.

In studying them, one should maintain the method of combining theory and practice, self-consciously remodel one's outlook on the world, overcome nonproletarian ideology, and firmly establish a communist outlook on the world.

Second, comrades of the entire party should make efforts to enhance the self-awareness of serving the people. Serving the people wholeheartedly is our party's fundamental objective, and forming close ties with the masses is our party's excellent work style. The party's work style determines the life, death, survival, and fall of the party. If we allow a corrupt phenomenon to follow its own course, the party will destroy itself. The guiding organizations and guiding cadres of all levels should set practical examples and improve the work style, work assiduously, do the political work for the people diligently, urgently [cholbakhage] request the masses to solve the problems, and seriously solve the solvable problems. They should give first priority to the people's interests; precisely execute the work involving relations between local interests and the overall interest, the relations between the present interest and the prospective interest, the relations between state, group, and individual interests; and resolutely oppose the individualistic, egocentric ideas and acts, and the ideas and acts of doing everything for the sake of money.

The members of the communist party should not pursue their personal interest with power, nor should they infringe upon the state's and people's interest in the interest of the individuals and smaller units.

Third, efforts should be made to enhance the fighting efficiency of the party organizations of all levels. What will be the basis of the party organization, and how can it have great strength—this large party of ours with its 50 million members? It is of utmost importance to maintain and complete the democratic centralism system. If this is weakened and negated, the party's fighting efficiency will suffer, and, further, the party organizations will disintegrate. The democratic centralist system should be precisely implemented on the basis of giving full play to democracy so that the ideological and political unity and the uniformity of actions of the entire party can be ensured.

The entire party should rigorously observe this principle without fail, intensify discipline consciousness, and resolutely rectify disorganization, lack of discipline, duplicity, and inconsistency. The party's unity, particularly the unity of the party leadership of various levels, is essential to social stability and work development. The comrades of the entire party should treasure, defend, and strengthen the party's unity.

We should never allow any political factions to exist in our party nor should we allow any acts to be committed to destroy and divide the party.

The party's basic organizations are the foundation of the party and the starting point of all the party's work. We should build the party's basic organizations to make them the fortresses of effectively implementing the party's line, plans, and policies, with firm ties to the masses, with rigorous discipline, and with strong fighting efficiency. At the same time, we should rectify the phenomenon of some of the basic party organizations lacking energy.

Fourth, we should make efforts to foster the growth of the youth which will inherit our socialist cause.

The prospects of the socialist cause in China will greatly depend on the young generation's situation. With a lofty sense of responsibility for the destiny of the socialist cause in China 10 years from now and in the next century, we should pay strict attention to the issue of rearing a broad range of youth.

The inheritors of the socialist cause should inherit and display the courageous spirit of their old superiors, who carried out the revolutionary struggle. They should sincerely serve the people, stand in the forefront to deal with difficult tasks and yield any remuneration, when available, to others, and prepare themselves to sacrifice all their personal belongings for the victory of the socialist cause in the people's interest.

In touching on the issue of national reunification, Comrade Jiang Zemin pointed out as follows:

The accomplishment of the great supreme task of national reunification is related to the Chinese people's basic interest and it is the common desire of the people of each state in the entire nation, including compatriots in Taiwan, Macao, Hong Kong, and overseas residents.

Since the CPC stated the principle of one nation and two systems, the question of Hong Kong and Macao has been resolved.

We will continue to make consistent efforts for the peaceful transition, stability, and prosperity of Hong Kong and Macao.

In order to expedite the reunification of Taiwan with the continental fatherland, we have formulated a series of policies and lines based on the idea of one country and two systems and took a number of steps corresponding to the realities. We vigorously pushed ahead with mutual understanding and exchanges between fellow countrymen on both sides of the strait.

Today, Taiwan's situation is in the course of important changes. In particular, the trend of thought for Taiwan's independence has spread; we should direct keen attention to and heighten vigilance against this. This development clearly presents a mission for all the Chinese people to achieve the national reunification by ending the split of the two sides.

All factions, public organizations, and patriotic figures, who want the reunification of the nation, should have a sense of urgency by treasuring the great national aspiration.

Although various problems and difficulties may lie on the road of advance and some unexpected situations may arise in the future, our goal is clear and our path is already decided.

Comrades of the entire party should display the revolutionary spirit which our party consistently stresses, the spirit of fairness and selflessness, the spirit of thinking of other people before oneself, the spirit of closely observing the discipline and the spirit of self-sacrifice. We should also maintain the revolutionary optimism and the spirit of overcoming difficulties and achieving victory. Thus, we should firmly march toward the goal of our struggle without wavering.

Victory is on the side of the great CPC. Victory is on the side of great China and of the people in each state.

PRC Friendship Group Arrives for Anniversary

SK0807112891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1108 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 8 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries (CPAFFC) and the China-Korea Friendship Association headed by Han Xu, president of the CPAFFC, arrived here by air on July 8 to participate in the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Korean-Chinese Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance.

A Chinese Liaoning provincial friendship delegation headed by Peng Xiangsong, vice-chairman of the Liaoning Provincial Political Consultative Conference, arrived in Sinuiju on the same day.

PRC Envoy Hosts Party To Commemorate Treaty

SK1207054291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0458 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 12 (KCNA)—Chinese Ambassador to Korea Zheng Yi hosted a party at his embassy on July 11 to mark the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Sino-Korean Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance.

Invited to the party were Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and vice-president; Politburo members of the C.C., the WPK Kim Yong-nam, vice-premier of the Administration Council and foreign minister, and Choe Kwang, chief of the general staff of the Korean People's Army; Kang Hui-won, alternate member of the Politiburo of the C.C., the WPK and vice-premier of the Administration Council; Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the C.C., the WPK; and officials concerned.

Present there were the visiting delegation of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries (CPAFFC) and the Sino-Korean Friendship Association led by Han Xu, president of the CPAFFC, the Jilin provincial friendship delegation led by Vice-Governor of the province Liu Hailin and the Liaoning provincial friendship delegation led by Peng Xiangsong, vice-chairman of the Liaoning provincial Political Consultative Conference.

In his speech at the party, Zheng Yi said:

The fraternal Korean people are registering successes in the socialist revolution and construction, holding high the banner of the ideological, technical and cultural revolutions, under the guidance of their great leader Comrade President Kim Il-song and the Workers' Party of Korea.

To achieve the peaceful reunification of the country at an early date is a cherished desire of the entire Korean people. The Chinese party and Government resolutely support the three principles of independent and peaceful reunification and the proposal for achieving the peaceful reunification of the country through a confederacy based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments.

In his speech, Choe Kwang said:

The signing of the Korea-China Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance was a great event which elevated the Korea-China friendship sealed in blood through a protracted struggle to a new, higher stage.

Today the fraternal Chinese people under the leadership of the Communist Party of China with respected Comrade Jiang Zemin at the core are achieving successes in the efforts to build socialism with Chinese characteristics. The Korean people express firm support and solidarity for the Chinese people's just cause of reunifying the country peacefully according to the conception of "one country, two systems."

A film show and a party were given at the consulate-general of China in Chongjin Thursday to mark the 30th anniversary of the signing of the treaty.

PRC Paper Discusses Development of Relations

SK1207105791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 12 (KCNA)—The Chinese paper PEOPLE's DAILY July 11 came out with an editorial entitled "Shining Course of Sino-Korean Friendship and Cooperation", which said in part:

China and Korea have not only stepped up the overall development of the relations between the two countries, strengthening solidarity, developing friendship and sincerely cooperating with and helping each other in the spirit of the China-Korea treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance signed 30 years ago but also played an important role in defending peace in Asia and the world.

The Sino-Korean friendship has personally been fostered by Chairman Mao Zedong, Premier Zhou Enlai, President Kim Il-song and other veteran revolutionaries.

In its relations with foreign countries, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, pursuing the policy of independence, friendship and peace, has made unstinted efforts to steadily develop friendly relations with different countries of the world and defend peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

Both China and Korea are sympathizing and supporting each other in the cause of achieving the reunification of their own country and defending peace in Asia and the world.

This is a vivid embodiment of the spirit of friendship and cooperation between our two countries.

The Chinese people have a great concern for developments on the Korean peninsula and have consistently supported all the reasonable proposals advanced by the party and Government of Korea for the cause of the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

The government of Korea recently decided to apply for U.N. membership, which is internationally welcomed.

The Chinese Government supports and praises this important and affirmative measure taken by the Korean Government.

The party and Government of China will as ever make every possible effort to further develop the friendly relations between the two countries.

Japan's Oita Prefecture Forms Council for Ties

SK1107053691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0501 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo July 9 (KNS-KCNA)—The Oita Prefectural People's Council for the Promotion of the Normalization of Japan- DPRK Diplomatic Relations was formed on July 1.

Its inaugural meeting was held in Oita Prefecture that day.

The meeting discussed the immediate action goal and program of the council and elected its chairman and members.

It decided to adopt a recommendation urging strenuous efforts for an early normalization of Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations and submit it to the government authorities.

A lecture was given at the meeting by Hajime Ishii, member of the House of Representatives and chairman of the Dietmen's League for the Promotion of Japan-Korea Friendship.

Areas of Japan Support Normalized Relations

SK0607110791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1029 GMT 6 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo July 4 (KNS-KCNA)—Resolutions and written opinions demanding early normalization of Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations were adopted one after another at local assemblies of Japan.

In Gifu Prefecture resolutions were adopted by the prefectural assembly and 13 city, 42 cho [block] and 26 mura [town] assemblies, 82 assemblies in all.

Meanwhile, written opinions were adopted by 31 city, cho and mura assemblies in the northern area of Saitama Prefecture.

Written opinions were also adopted by Kaasado and Minamigawara Mura assemblies and Kazo, Honzo, Kyota, Jichibu City assemblies.

New Normalization Talks Discussed With Japan

OW1107142291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1406 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Tokyo, July 11 KYODO—Two Japanese emissaries are in North Korea discussing the resumption of normalization talks between the two countries, government sources said Thursday. The last round of talks ended in discord in May in Beijing.

The sources said Eiji Yamamoto, deputy director of the Foreign Ministry's Northeast Asia Division, is in Pyongyang along with Teruo Komaki, an expert on Korean affairs at the ministry-affiliated Institute of Asian Economies.

The talks in May—the third round held so far—broke down over Tokyo's demand for information on the whereabouts of a Japanese woman suspected of being abducted from Japan to tutor a self-confessed North Korean female terrorist. North Korea demanded that Japan rescind its request for information on the woman and apologize before resuming the talks.

Japan will not comply with either demand, said a senior Foreign Ministry official, who requested anonymity. "Japan should not try to strike a compromise" to resume the talks, the official said.

According to the government sources, Yamamoto and Komaki are sounding out whether Pyongyang is willing to relax its stand linking resumption of the normalization talks to the withdrawal of Japan's demand for information on the woman.

The Japanese Government will decide its stand on possible resumption of the talks after hearing from the two emissaries, the sources said.

The Japanese woman was allegedly forced to coach Kim Hyon-hui, convicted in the November 1987 bombing of a Korean Air jetliner, in the Japanese language and customs. Kim, posing as a Japanese tourist, and an accomplice planted a bomb that killed all 115 people on board the Boeing 707.

Book on Kim Il-song Published in USSR

SK0707001291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1501 GMT 6 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 6 (KCNA)—TASS reported that the Novosibirsk Press in the Soviet Union recently published and put on sale "Symbol of Friendship," a book on the great leader President Kim Il-song.

The 100-page book was written by Ya. Novichenko, a Siberian war veteran, said the report.

The Soviet paper LENINSKOYE ZNAMYA also reported that the book on President Kim Il-song was published in the Soviet Union.

Ya. Novichenko was an officer of the Soviet Army who defended the headquarters of the Korean revolution by covering with his body a grenade thrown at a Pyongyang mass rally held in the presence of President Kim Il-song right after the liberation of Korea from the colonial yoke of Japanese imperialism (August 1945).

He is widely known as a hero of the DPRK and an internationalist soldier.

North Hamgyong Party Commemorates Soviet Treaty

SK0707081591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0802 GMT 7 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 7 (KCNA)—The North Hamgyong Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea

[WPK] and the North Hamgyong Provincial Administration and Economic Guidance Committee hosted a film show and cocktail party Saturday on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Korean-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance.

Invited there were Consul General Vasiliy Gorovoy and officials of the Soviet consulate-general in Chongjin.

Present there were Kim Chung-il, chairman of the North Hamgyong Provincial Administration and Economic Guidance Committee, Yi Kil-ho, secretary of the North Hamgyong Provincial Committee of the WPK, and other officials concerned.

The participants appreciated the Korean-Soviet coproduced feature film "From Spring to Summer".

Then followed a cocktail party.

Army Hosts Soviets at Friendship Gathering

SK0707092991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0841 GMT 7 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 7 (KCNA)—A friendship gathering of artistes of the Korean People's Army and the Twice Red Flag song and dance ensemble of the Soviet Army named after A. V. Alexandrov was held in Pyongyang Saturday.

A small performance was given by artistes of the two armies at the gathering.

Then the participants shared the feelings of friendship forged between the armies, dancing to the tune of songs of the two countries.

Kim Il-song Sends Message to SFRY President

SK0707082091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0812 GMT 7 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 7 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent a message of greetings on July 6 to Stipe Mesic upon his election as president of the Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

President Kim Il-song congratulated Stipe Mesic upon his election as president of the Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and wished him success in his responsible work.

Cultural Agreement Signed With Poland

SK0807112291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1107 GMT 8 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 8 (KCNA)—A 1991-1993 plan of cultural cooperation between the Governments of the DPRK and Poland was signed in Pyongyang on July 8.

Present at the signing ceremony on our side were vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries Chon Yon-ok and other officials concerned and on the opposite side were the delegation of the Polish Government cultural delegation and Polish ambassador to Korea Ryszard Baturo.

Delegations Leave for Sandinist Congress, Poland

SK1107115691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1045 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 11 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] led by Yi Mong-ho, member of the WPK Central Committee and secretary of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, to attend the 1st Congress of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, and a government scientific and technological cooperation delegation led by Yo Song-kyun, director of a general bureau of the State Commission of Science and Technology, to attend the 14th sub-committee meeting of inter-governmental scientific and technological cooperation between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Poland, left here today by air.

Yi Chong-ok Meets Portuguese Communist Group

SK0607153891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1520 GMT 6 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 6 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Communist Party of Portugal led by secretary-general of its Central Committee Alvaro Cunhal arrived here today for a visit to Korea upon the invitation of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK].

It was met at the airport by Yi Chong-ok, member of the Politial Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-president, secretary Kim Yong-son and vice-director of a department Kwon Min-chun of the WPK Central Committee.

Kim Yong-sun Attends Lunch for Portuguese Group

SK0707092291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0842 GMT 7 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 7 (KCNA)—The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], arranged a luncheon for the delegation of the Communist Party of Portugal [CPP] today.

Invited there were head of the delegation Alvaro Cunhal, secretary-general, and Albano Nunes, international secretary, of the C.C., CPP.

Secretary Kim Yong-sun and Vice-director of a department Kwon Min-chun of the C.C. [Central Committee], WPK, were present there.

The luncheon took place in an amicable atmosphere.

Officials Attend Party at Mongolian Embassy

SK1007045791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0432 GMT 10 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 10 (KCNA)—Baasanjavyn Ganbold, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Mongolian Embassy here, arranged a party at the Embassy on July 9 on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the Mongolian People's Revolution.

Present on invitation were Kim Tal-hyon, vice-premier, Yun Ki-chong, minister of finance and chairman of the Korea-Mongolia Friendship Association, Cho Kyu-il, vice-minister of foreign affairs, other officials concerned and foreign diplomatic envoys to Korea.

Speeches were made at the party.

'Talk' Recalls Kim Il-song's Revolutionary Role

SK1207035791 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0600 GMT 3 Jul 91

[Unattributed talk: "Great Achievements That Will Shine Forever for Thousands of Years To Come—Unfurling Great Programs for Korean Revolution"]

[Text] During the darkest hour of national suffering, the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song, shouldering the fate of the fatherland and nation, embarked upon a revolutionary road. After founding the immortal chuche idea, he then presented great programs for the Korean revolution, thereby achieving the immortal, great accomplishment before the fatherland, nation, the times, and the revolution.

Putting forward correct lines and struggle policy is a precondition for victory in the revolution and an indispensable condition to lead the masses to the victory of the revolution.

Only when lines and policies reflecting the demands of the times and the revolution, as well as the concrete reality of the country, are in place can people carry out the revolutionary struggle victoriously, without deviation, with a clear struggle goal and faith in certain victory.

By putting forward chuche-oriented revolutionary lines and policies based on his scientific insight into the prevailing situation and the demands of the developing revolution, the respected and beloved leader has enabled the Korean revolution, explored under the chuche banner, to energetically advance along the most straightforward road to victory.

On the whole, the revolutionary situation in our country was developing in favor of the revolution in the thirties, but it was still complicated due to the Japanese imperialists' fascist suppression that was growing serious with each passing day and due to maneuvers of the leftist and rightist opportunists lurking inside the revolutionary ranks. As a result, the prospect for struggle was still arduous.

The Japanese imperialists, who were thrown into the whirlwind called the world's great economic depression, intensified political suppression and economic plundering against the Korean people while Fascist-izing domestic politics and clinging to their criminal plot for occupying Manchuria, which they had long sought to achieve, according to their strategy for world domination.

The more the Japanese imperialists intensified their suppression and plundering, the greater our people's spirit of resistance grew. At the same time, the flames of the anti-Japanese mass struggle began showing a violent nature in the process of spreading to every corner of the country.

However, all of these mass struggles fizzled as they were only spontaneous and not under the guidance of correct lines and policies.

Around this time, in early May 1930, the respected and beloved leader came out of a prison, having refined a great plan concerning the Korean revolution.

The respected and beloved leader, who had just walked out of prison after devising the great plan based on energetic meditation and thoughts, once again began his energetic activities, paying no attention to his extremely weakened physical condition caused by the sufferings experienced in prison.

Around this time, due to factionalists and toadysts, the reckless 30 May riot erupted in Jiandao. The factionalists and toadysts—dancing to the tune of others and without any calculation or preparation on their part—drove the masses into the reckless riot and caused the revolutionary force to incur staggering losses.

Hearing about this when he arrived in Dunhua after he gave some guidance to the organizations in Jilin following his release from prison, the respected and beloved leader analyzed in detail the lessons taught by the 30 May riot.

The great leader fully knew that giving the revolutionaries and anti-Japanese masses suffering the consequences of the 30 May riot correct lines and policies was a matter of urgency that could not be postponed for even a moment.

So, the great leader made up his mind to convene a meeting without delay to present the lines and policies he had devised while in prison.

Before holding a meeting, the great leader sent comrades to the eastern, central, and southern parts of Manchuria to bring under control organizations damaged by the 30 May riot and later called guiding cadres of the Union of the Communist Youth and Union of the Anti-Imperialist Youth to gather in Kalun.

The great leader went to Kalun as soon as he brought under control and put in good order the revolutionary organizations in Dunhua area.

Arriving in Kalun, the great leader met with comrades who came to attend the conference, heard from them about the situation of the revolutionary organizations in each district, and exchanged views on the methods of the future struggle. He then accelerated the preparations for the conference.

Completing all preparations, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song convened the conference of the cadres of the Union of Communist Youth and the Union of Anti-Imperialist Youth in Kalun.

The conference was held from 30 June to 2 July 1930. In the conference, the great leader made a historic report entitled "The Course of Korean Revolution To Advance." In the report, the great leader analyzed and summed up the complicated situation of that time and the lessons of our people's anti-Japanese national liberation movement which was suffering trials. He put forward the chuche-oriented struggle lines and strategic and tactical policies that elucidated the correct path for the Korean revolution.

In his historic report, the great leader clearly expounded the basic position and attitude which the Korean communists should maintain in the revolutionary struggle. The great leader deduced that the main reason for the repeated failure in our people's anti- Japanese mass struggle was that the nationalists and early-stage communist movement activists gathered in groups composed merely of a few people and repeated verbal arguments and that they did not mobilize the popular masses in the practical revolutionary struggle. Without trusting the strength of our people, they merely relied on outside forces. Thus, he sharply criticized them.

He taught that for the Korean communists to lead the Korean revolution along the path of firm victory, it is important for them to have correct outlook on and attitude toward the popular masses.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: I think it is most important that learning this lesson, we should have a firm position and attitude that the masters of the Korean revolution are the Korean people, and the Korean revolution should be carried out by the strength of the Korean people themselves according to the practical situation of our country.

Such basic position and attitude, which regard the popular masses as the masters and motive force of the revolution, served as a starting point of the chuche-oriented lines and policies of the Korean revolution put forward by the great leader at the conference. This position and attitude have been thoroughly embodied in the lines and policies advanced by him.

In his report, the great leader clearly defined the anti-imperialist and anti-feudalistic democratic characteristics of the Korean revolution and its basic mission, motive force, and targets.

The great leader taught that all anti-Japanese patriotic forces, including workers, peasants, youth, students, intellectuals, tenants, conscientious nationalist capitalists, and religionists, should be mobilized in the struggle to overthrow the Japanese imperialists and landlords, capitalists, and national traitors who were in collusion with the Japanese imperialists and should achieve national liberation and the nation's independence.

He also taught that only when the government which protects the interests of the broad popular masses, including workers and peasants, is established after the Japanese imperialists are overthrown, can we thoroughly eliminate the remnants of the imperialists and all reactionary forces and successfully carry out the tasks of anti-feudalistic democratic revolution.

The great leader stressed that the revolution should continue following the anti-imperialist and anti-feudalist democratic revolution to build the socialist and communist society and to carry out the global revolution. He taught that responsibly accomplishing the Korean revolution means faithfulness to the global revolution, which helps expedite the global revolution.

As a result, the injustice of the views of the leftists and rightists, who merely created confusion in the revolution while repeating vain discussions without correctly understanding the characteristics of our nation's revolution up to that time, was exposed. Thus, the Korean communists and revolutionaries could traverse along the victorious road by cherishing clear goals and aims.

In his historic report, the great leader, after explaining the nature and fundamental mission of the Korean revolution, presented the lines for the anti-Japanese struggle as ways to successfully carry it out.

The great leader taught that independence is not something that comes through someone else's efforts, as evidenced by the historic lesson of the anti-Japanese struggle, and that in no sense could national independence be realized after defeating the Japanese imperialists through peaceful means. He then noted the need for organized struggle with arms to realize the goal of national independence.

The great leader's lines for the anti-Japanese armed struggle brought an epoch-making turning point in developing the anti- Japanese struggle for national liberation that had undergone twists and turns onto a new high stage of armed struggle.

At the same time, the great leader presented the lines for the unified anti-Japanese front as a way to successfully carry out the Korean revolution. Thus, the most correct way was opened for organizing and mobilizing the broad range of the patriotic forces in our country for the anti-Japanese national liberation struggle. Furthermore, a theoretical base was provided for most correctly solving the issue of organizing the revolutionary forces in the revolution for liberating the nation from colonization.

The great leader also presented a policy on founding an independent party in his report. Noting the need for successful preparations for the founding of a party in order to successfully carry out the Korean revolution, the great leader taught that one must not try to declare the founding of a party without preparations nor try to have it recognized by an international party [kukchedang], as did the factionalists in the past.

Stressing the need to organize the grass-roots organizations of the party with ample preparations, to have them strike their roots deep in the broad range of the masses, and then founding the party by way of expanding these grass-roots organizations without faltering, instead of declaring the founding of the party center, the great leader even went so far as to cite detailed ways to accomplish this.

The great leader's presentation of the clear ways to found the party has opened a broad road on which to build a truly chuche-type revolutionary party that has, with its independent stance, roots firmly planted among the working masses.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's historic report "The Way for the Korean Revolution To Explore" was the one and only correct guideline that the Korean communists and revolutionaries should have adhered to in the course of exploring the arduous and complicated future of the Korean revolution.

This historic report explains the basic stance and attitude that the Korean communists and revolutionaries should adhere to without fail. It gives the most correct answers to the nature of the Korean revolution, its mission and ways to fulfill it, thereby enabling our people to have the correct lines for struggle and strategy and tactics.

Participants in the meeting solemnly adopted the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song's chuche-oriented lines and policies as the great programs of the Korean revolution.

In this way, the Korean revolution, which had declared its new start in step with the formation of the Down-With-Imperialism Union, entered a new stage of its development based on the chuche-oriented revolutionary lines and scientific strategy and tactics presented by the great leader in the wake of the historic Kalun meeting.

Indeed, the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song opened a great turning point in the development of the Korean revolution by uniquely indicating the path for our revolution to explore and the straighforward path of the revolution for national liberation. For the first time in history, he achieved immortal accomplishments for the fatherland and people, for the times, and for the revolution.

The anti-Japanese armed struggle, which was put in motion along the chuche-oriented path indicated at the Kalun meeting, led to glorious victory and eventually led to the realization of the historic cause of national liberation.

That the great leader put the Korean revolution on the chuche- oriented orbit will shine forever after being recorded as a proud page in the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song's glorious revolutionary history.

Kim Il-song Speech Published in Foreign Languages

*SK1007044791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0420 GMT 10 Jul 91*

[Text] Pyongyang July 10 (KCNA)—"On the Tasks of the Youth in the Building of Socialism," a speech of the great leader President Kim Il-sung at the national meeting of young builders of socialism (March 19, 1958), was recently brought out by the foreign languages press group in Russian, Chinese, Japanese, English, French, Spanish, Arabic and German.

President Kim Il-song in the work indicated tasks facing the youth in attaining the far-reaching goals of the First Five-Year Plan.

He called upon all the young people to take a more active part in all work devolved on them in different branches of the national economy.

He said the youth should play a vanguard role in acquiring new technologies and disseminating advanced technologies and firmly equip themselves with the socialist patriotic idea.

He stressed that the young people should also play a vanguard role in improving the consciousness of all the working people along socialist lines and pushing ahead with the cultural revolution in towns and countryside.

Kim Chong-il Work on Party Unity Viewed

*SK1207013591 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0600 GMT 6 Jul 91*

[Unattributed Talk: "Tracing a Great History of Guidance—Kim Chong-il Adhered to the Establishment of the Unitary Ideological System as the Basic Line of Party Construction"]

[Text] The party firmly guarantees the unity of ideology and guidance. The entire society is full of the leader's ideology. The people are endlessly loyal to his leadership. This is the only true and proud reality that our people can enjoy in our country.

Thanks to the immortal achievements performed for the fatherland, the people, and the revolution by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong- il, who is brilliantly inheriting and consummating the chuche revolutionary cause, our people can enjoy today's proud reality.

By adhering to and wisely leading the work of building the party's unitary ideological system as the basic line of the party construction of the working class and as the constant work for the final victory of the chuche revolutionary cause, the dear leader comrade has brought about today's great reality.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has taught: We should vigorously carry out the work of building the party's unitary ideological system to further strengthen our party and to promote our revolution's development.

Firmly building the party's unitary ideological system is the most important demand in order to defend the revolutionary character of the party of the working class, to achieve the organizational and ideological unity of the party ranks, and to strengthen the militant function and leading role of the party in carrying out revolution and construction. Only when the party's unitary ideological system is established, can we not only further solidify the party ranks but also firmly implement the unity of the ideological will. Thus, the entire party will establish stern organizational discipline and an outstanding organizational system.

Our party, since the first day of its founding, has advanced the work of building the unitary ideological system as the basic line of party construction and has constantly consolidated the work of building the unitary ideological system each period and each stage in the revolution's and party's development.

The struggle to build the party's unitary ideological system is, in essence, a struggle to guarantee the unity of the ideology and the leadership of the leader. The dear leader comrade has energetically led the work of guaranteeing the unity of the ideology and leadership of the great leader to the entire party and whole society.

In the 1970s, at a time when the entire party and whole society carried out the chuche ideology in earnest, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il continued the immortal and energetic struggle by further consolidating the work of building the party's unitary ideological system so that the ideology and leadership of the great leader could be manifest in unity to the entire party and all of society.

There is a story about the energy and effort made by the dear leader comrade for the consolidation of the work of the establishment of the party's unitary ideological system. This story is about what happened when the dear leader comrade wrote his work entitled "Let Us More Firmly Build the Unitary Ideological System for the Entire Party and All of Society." This is also an historic work that fully elucidates the specific directions and methods of further consolidating the work of establishing the party's unitary ideological system in conformity with a new demand of the party's development.

One day, a functionary, who was working at an office located at a site near the dear leader comrade's working office, received a telephone call from him at dawn. The dear leader comrade asked him a question about the various problems in establishing the party's unitary ideological system. The dear leader comrade stopped talking to him. He hoped that the dear leader comrade would continue talking, but there were no words from him. The dear leader comrade was not likely to hang up his telephone, but, still, there were no words from him. The functionary quietly put his telephone on the desk because a strange idea occurred to him, and he abruptly ran to the dear leader comrade's working office. However, the functionary could not help being surprised at his appearance, because the dear leader comrade, with the telephone in one hand and a ballpoint pen in other, was taking a nap.

With energetic speculation and research, the dear leader comrade had prepared the scientific guide to establish the party's unitary ideological system, overflowing with literary merit and [word indistinct] logic.

Based on this, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has consolidated the struggle for the establishment of the party's unitary ideological system at a new level. The work of building the party's unitary ideological system is very extensive work, including the party's overall work.

The leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has personally charged in all work to do the following: to dye the entire society one color with the revolutionary ideology of the great leader; to educate and remold every member of society to become genuine communist revolutionaries of the chuche style who are endlessly loyal to the great leader; to strengthen the unity of ideological will and revolutionary cohesion of the entire party centering on the great leader; to enable all party members, the working people, and functionaries to possess the revolutionary work method and mass-oriented work style with their moral traits and revolutionary ethos. In addition, he has fully and perfectly carried out all the works with his supreme efforts.

The dear leader comrade has specifically taught all the party members about the party organizations' methods of activity so that they can be deeply aware of the basic demand and principle establishing the party's unitary ideological system, and that they can carry it out thoroughly in their work and life. In addition, he even worked out a plan for the party's unitary ideological system.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has also made the party members and the working people adhere to the unitary ideological indoctrination and chuche idea indoctrination as the basic line in carrying out the ideological work of building the party's unitary ideological system.

What is important here is that the indoctrination work should be properly carried out in order to inspire loyalty for the party and leader. The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has seen to it that education on the greatness and benevolence of the party and the leader is strengthened among party members and the working people so that they cherish in their hearts loyalty to the party and the leader as their revolutionary faith and obligation.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il gave detailed guidance to the party members and the working people so that the form and method of the unitary ideological indoctrination could be constantly improved. In May 1974, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il gave on-the-spot guidance to the Institute for the Revolutionary Ideology of Comrade Kim Il-song in Sonpong County. This is one example of the guidence at that time.

In his on-the-spot guidance at that time, the dear leader comrade summed up specifically a decree on operating the institute and presented a plan for its improvement. This was why the unitary ideological indoctrination through the institute had been carried out practically. The dear leader Kim Chong-il has firmly adhered to the work of building the party's unitary ideological system as the basic line for the party construction and has energetically led this work with every effort. Because of his wise leadership, the work to dye the entire society one color with the revolutionary ideology of the great leader has been vigorously promoted, and, thus, all the social members have been firm chuche-oriented communist revolutionaries who are endlessly loyal to the party and the leader.

The single-hearted mind united around the leader, party, and masses was firmly consolidated. The entire society is full of sound and moral traits and revolutionary ethos. Thus, the revolutionary work method and people-oriented work style have been more thoroughly carried out.

In the future, too, our party and people will strengthen our party as the chuche-oriented revolutionary party and hasten the day of the achievement of the chuche revolutionary cause by further consolidating the work of building the unitary ideological system for the entire party and whole society according to the seasoned leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Kim Il-song Song Heard in Southern Part of DMZ

SK1007053491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0510 GMT 10 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 10 (KCNA)—The immortal "Song of General Kim Il-song" reportedly rang out more than once from the southern part of the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) along the Military Demarcation Line, exciting people.

Some time ago, South Koreans in the DMZ sang this song toward the North, said the report.

Earlier, "Song of General Kim Il-song" and "Korea Is One" were sung in the southern part of the DMZ.

This shows that the South Korean people unboundedly revere the great leader President Kim Il-song and more earnestly desire to live under his leadership in a reunified country.

Study-'On-the-Job Higher Education' Encouraged

SK1107153291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1506 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 11 (KCNA)—Korea which set it as the chief goal of the cultural revolution to assimilate the whole of society to intelligentsia is rearing many technical personnel by actively encouraging study-while-on-the-job higher education along with regular education.

Recently, some 150 engineers and economic experts graduated through a correspondence course from Chong Chontaek University of Economics, Nampo University, and Pyongyang University of Agriculture.

The number of the working people who passed through the correspondence course this year is more than 1,000.

At present, several hundred local study teams under the correspondence course are operating briskly at factories, enterprises, farms and fishing villages throughout the country. Tens of thousands of working people have received higher education through these study teams over the past 10 years.

The state has built up such local study teams and sent university teachers to give higher education so that the working people might finish university courses while on the job.

Competent university teachers give lectures to students of the correspondence course for two hours every day, staying six months in the localities.

There are more than 100 factory colleges, farm colleges and fishermen's colleges in Chongjin, a leading metallogical base in the northern part of the country, Komdok and Musan, gigantic mining industrial bases, Yongsong, Nakwon, and Taean, modernly-equipped machinebuilding bases, and other major industrial zones and in rural and fishermen's villages including Chongsan-ri, Unjon, and Sinpo.

The 1.5 million intellectuals who have grown up after the liberation of the country (August 15, 1945) include engineers and experts who studied under various forms of the study-while-on-the-job higher educational system.

The graduates from a correspondence course are now successfully managing industrial establishments equipped with uptodate technologies and playing a great role in realizing the chuche-orientation, modernization and scientification of the national economy.

Major Industrial Projects See Rapid Progress

SK1107154491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1503 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Pyongyang July 11 (KCNA)—Major industrial projects are progressing fast in Korea.

Builders of the Sariwon potassic fertilizer complex completed in the main the construction of some 40 objects and assembling of equipment of kiln No. 1 and successfully carried out a no-load trial operation. And architectural projects and assembling of equipment are making headway briskly in more than 20 objects of the after-treatment system. Architectural projects had already been completed and assembling of equipment is under way at the finishing stage in some 10 objects.

Builders of the December thermal power station have completed the large-scale architectural project in the main and are hastening the assembling of equipment including boilers and thermal turbines, thus opening a prospect of finishing the construction of the power station within this year.

Groundwork projects for the separator and compressor rooms have been completed in a short period and architectural projects and assembling of equipment are being pushed forward at one and the same time at the construction site of the oxygen plant of the February 8 vinalon complex.

KCNA Review of 12 Jul Pyongyang Press

SK1207071091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0519 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang July 12 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry a message of greetings sent by President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to President Miguel Trovoada of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe on the 16th anniversary of the independence of the country and the proclamation of the Republic as well as articles marking this occasion.

NODONG SINMUN carries a solidarity message to Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, from Ludo Martens, chairman of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Belgian Labour Party, and news that he received a message from the participants of a solidarity meeting held in Mali on the occasion of the month of international solidarity with the Korean people.

MINJU CHOSON says the great leader President Kim Il-song set up a unit train service system and wisely guided the work of railway transport so as to satisfactorily meet the increasing demands of the national economy for transport.

It is reported in NODONG SINMUN that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il's work "Our Socialism for the People Will Not Perish" is studied and disseminated abroad and the Yamaguchi prefectural headquarters of Chongnyon organised a study to learn his greatness.

NODONG SINMUN carries an article on the conversion of Angto-ri, Chosan County, Chagang Province, into a modern rural village good to live in under the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Chong-il and MINJU CHOSON an article on his noble traits, saying that he walked through any rugged path for the sake of the people and even found himself in an underground worksite in Komdok to show meticulous care for the health and working conditions of the miners.

Papers report a decree of the Central People's Committee of the DPRK on upgrading Hoenyong County, North Hamgyong Province, to Hoenyong City.

The economic news columns of the press include reports that crops are manured and tended well in rural communities.

Seen in papers are accounts of parties hosted at the Chinese Embassy in Pyongyang and the Korean Embassy in Beijing to mark the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Korea-China Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance and a telephone message sent by Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the Administration Council, to the South Korean "prime minister", proposing to resume the North-South high-level talks in Pyongyang.

The DPRK ambassador to Mauritius paid a farewell call on the prime minister of the country and the chairman of the C.C., the Socialist Party of Turkey met a delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea, according to papers.

NODONG SINMUN reports that a meeting of women students was held at Kim Chaek University of Technology demanding the release of coed Yim Su-kyong.

The inaugural meeting of the month of solidarity with the Cuban people was held in Pyongyang to mark the 38th anniversary of the July 26 armed uprising of the Cuban people, says the press.

Papers carry commentaries on the South Korean authorities' moves against the opening of the August 15 pan-national rally and a report that the preparatory committee for the formation of the South side's headquarters of Pomminnyon urged the authorities to allow the Seoul visit of the delegates of the North and overseas sides.

Seen in papers are a statement issued by the C.C., the Korean Catholics Association to mark the second anniversary of the Pyongyang visit of woman student Yim Su-kyong and Father Mun Kyu-hyon and a report that the spokesman of Hanminjon [South Korean National Democratic Front] issued a statement denouncing No Tae-u's visit to the United States.

NODONG SINMUN runs an article denouncing the South Korean puppets' suppression of the labour movement.

Papers report that the delegates of Chondaehyop announced that tripartite working-level talks would be held in Berlin for the grand reunification festival of students in the North, the South and overseas and that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets continuously stage provocative war exercises.

Appearing in papers are an account of an international festival for peace and solidarity among people held in Rome, Italy, and a joint statement supporting the joint statement of the DPRK political parties and public organisations adopted at the festival.

It is reported in papers that the National Assembly of People's Power of Cuba met, premier of the State Council of China Li Peng visited Iran and Jordan and Boris Yeltsin took office as the first president of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic.

NODONG SINMUN informs the readers that China denounced Taiwan's adoption of the application for U.N. membership, the general secretary of the C.C., the Portuguese Communist Party stressed that the Communist Parties are the motive force of the liberation struggle and social progress, the Guinean president called for national unity, the Soviet Union expressed concern over the new military plan of NATO, the Romanian paper ADEVARUL carried an article on the conflict of opinions between the United States and its allies over "assistance" to East Europe and the national conference of the African National Congress of South Africa closed.

MINJU CHOSON observes the independence day of the Republic of Kiribati.

South Korea

No Tae-u Addresses Unification Advisory Council

SK1207063891 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 0119 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Speech by President No Tae-u, chairman of the Advisory Council for Democratic and Peaceful Unification, at the inaugural meeting of the fifth Advisory Council for Democratic and Peaceful Unification held at Sejong Cultural Hall in Seoul on 12 Jul—live]

[Text] Members of the Advisory Council for Democratic and Peaceful Unification [ACDPU]: I think it is very significant to hold the inaugural meeting of the fifth ACDPU today. Over 5,000 local council deputies who have been elected by the people in the wake of the opening of the era of local autonomy are participating in the current ACDPU as new members. In addition to them, leading figures from ruling and opposition political parties, public organizations, and professional organizations, and from various districts in the country and overseas are participating in the council as its members. Thus, the ACDPU has come to have its new appearance as a pannational reunification organ both in name and reality and which will put the entire nation's will of reunification into practice.

That the ACDPU has made a new start with such a reliable appearance at a time when reunification is appearing as a reality is indeed encouraging. The ACDPU will become the centripetal force for the peaceful reunification by rallying the reunification forces on the basis of the people's support and confidence. [applause]

Members of the ACDPU: in the recent two or three years, the world has undergone revolutionary changes at the end of this century. The cold war structure which caused the division of our nation and country has completely collapsed. The one-party dictatorial system which oppressed the dignity and freedom of human beings has collapsed one after another in the Soviet Union and in East European countries. The ardent desire of human beings for freedom and prosperity has removed the iron curtain that split the world into the East and West. In the course of this grand change, Germany has achieved its reunification. No one anticipated that Germany's reunification would be achieved so rapidly and in so short a period of time.

Despite the many difficulties for the two Germanys to be reunified into one, the German nation has achieved its reunification peacefully. These waves of great change altering the world are now surging into East Asia and the Korean peninsula where we live. The countries concerned in this region, including the United States, the Soviet Union, China, and Japan, are now earnestly working to remove the barrier of the protracted cold war.

Our country has become a country which is ending the cold war era and leading the establishment of a new order in this region and on the Korean peninsula. Prior to this worldwide change, we not only consolidated relations with our traditional friendly nations, including the United States, and promoted the (?local autonomy system), but also widely opened the road leading to the Soviet Union, China, and East Europe.

My summit talks with Soviet Union President Gorbachev in San Francisco last year were the start of the upwelling of breaking the ice of the cold war on the Korean peninsula. In the past year alone, three rounds of the ROK-Soviet summit talks were held. As a result, the Soviet Union has become a country cooperating with us for peace on the Korean peninsula and for its reunification.

President Gorbachev pledged to oppose any armed provocation on the Korean peninsula and to play a role conducive to realizing our nation's desire to achieve the peaceful reunification of the country. The Soviet Union has proven its determination by joining the international efforts to call for the simultaneous entry of North and South Korea into the United Nations and to check North Korea's nuclear development.

My visits to the United States and Canada last week convinced me again that we are no longer in an age when external factors hamper our reunification. [applause]

U.S. President Bush reconfirmed that durable peace on the Korean peninsula is possible when reunification is achieved and that the United States firmly supports our efforts to independently realize reunification and is willing to assist us in these efforts.

Members of the ACDPU: The Soviet Union and other allies of North Korea in the past realistically support our reunification policy, and the United States and other members of the international community are urging North Korea to abandon its closed line and come forth into the world. North Korea can no longer remain the only closed land in the world. North Korea will change, and this change has already begun. That North Korea has changed its hitherto dogged attitude and decided to enter into the United Nations with us this fall can be taken as a beginning of change. We welcome this step taken by North Korea as we think that this will be a turning point toward developing exchange and cooperation between North and South Korea on the basis of recognizing each other until reunification is achieved. [applause]

Under the circumstances where the cold war structure itself has collapsed, North and South Korea cannot continue to regard each other as targets for subversion and hostile acts. The North and the South should put an end to the tragedy of division and confrontation. North and South Korea should liquidate abnormal relations as soon as possible and join together on the path of reconciliation where they help and trust each other through dialogue. If the compatriots in North and South Korea realize free exchange, coexistence, and co-prosperity, the day when we achieve reunification, when our 70 million fellow countrymen form one country, will not be far off, given our nation's ability to concentrate the people's will and effort.

North Korea's building of relations of exchange and cooperation with us will be the first step for it to progress in this world in which no one can live alone. North Korea should come to the open world to promote the interest of the entire nation, to expedite reunification, and for our country to become a proud country that contributes to world peace and the well-being of mankind.

Members of the ACDPU: North and South Korea should find a solution to the problems of the Korean peninsula and put it into practice themselves. For this, talks and dialogue in various channels, including the North-South high-level talks, should be developed and resumed. There are no unsolvable problems if the North and the South meet and talk. Not only humanitarian problems between the compatriots of the North and the South and the exchange and cooperation between the North and the South but also the solution to the political and military problems will be possible through negotiation between the North and the South.

We are ready to discuss anything with the North Korean side and to take progressive steps if it helps relieve our compatriots in the North and the South of their pain of national division and promotes peace and reunification in this land. [applause]

So that North and South Korea may form relations of coexistence and coprosperity and develop the conditions of peaceful reunification ourselves, I believe that we should put into practice the following as soon as possible.

First, the North and the South should push ahead with the things aimed at restoring national homogeneity, beginning with what is possible.

I think it advisable, as the North Korean side has asserted, to jointly hold the national liberation anniversary celebrations with the participation of the compatriots and youths of the North and the South, and hope that this will be put into practice on this coming 15 August. [applause]

A joint celebration and cultural festival for reunification at Panmunjom between the Korean compatriots from the South and North under the joint supervision of the South and North will make all the fellow countrymen renew their unanimous determination to achieve reunification. This will also implant it in the hearts of the people of the world. It will also be significant if the young people in the South and North launch a great cross-country march for reunification from Mt. Paektu to Mt. Halla and if representatives from all social strata in the South and the North hold great debates on reunification in Seoul and Pyongyang for the purpose of remembering the anniversary of national liberation. [applause]

I hope that the North Korean side will cooperate with us in realizing this.

As a result of the long separation of over 40 years, even the ways of life and ways of thinking in the South and North have become different. Given this heartbreaking reality, it is about time for us to make earnest, specific efforts to restore national unity.

It will also be desirable if the scholars and specialists in the South and North form a joint committee for national culture, for a joint research and study of the nation's cultural legacy, and for the prevention of the language differentiation and to do other such activities.

Second, in promoting exchange and cooperation, the South and North should begin with issues that are urgent to both sides and that can be realized immediately, and then we should keep expanding these exchanges and cooperation.

It is impossible to bring down the wall of mistrust under circumstances where even the parents and brothers living in separation in the South and North cannot visit each other. Talking about reunification and doing nothing about this reality will be only a hollow cry.

The South and North should, first of all, allow the aged separated families to visit their homes and reunite with their separated family members while they are alive. Humanitarian exchanges between the South and North should be realized and promoted in all areas.

I call on the South and North to first mutually exchange and open television and radio broadcasts so as to enable the compatriots in the South and North to have a correct perception of the other side and understand each other. [applause]

The South and North can solve the problem of the two sides' different transmitting systems by building and running joint conversion facilities inside the Demilitarized Zone.

Neither the South nor North will have any objection to broad trade, economic cooperation, and exchanges in the scientific and technological areas between the two sides, as they are beneficial to all the compatriots in the South and North.

Third, the South and North should bring an end to the era of tensions on the Korean peninsula and achieve peace by discontinuing the political and military confrontation between the two sides.

Next September, when both the South and North will be admitted into the United Nations side by side, we will actively seek to establish relations between the South and North in which they cooperate with each other in the international arena on Korean peninsula issues and other international affairs.

In order to firmly maintain peace on the Korean Peninsula, it is imperative for the two sides to adopt an effective nonaggression declaration and replace the existing truce system with a peace mechanism. [applause]

The South and North should sign this new peace mechanism, and countries interested in peace and stability on the Korean peninsula should confirm and guarantee it through necessary cooperation and joint effort.

Respected members of the ACDPU: We had not felt the deep impression of liberation when we had to suddenly suffer from national division by others. We cannot explain how painful its sufferings and tragedies have been. Now, we should achieve reunification by our own strength and our own efforts. The era of division will come to an end within this century. [applause]

In this world where the waves of reconciliation and negotiation are flowing to tear down all barriers of division, our strength is now bringing about freedom and prosperity, leading to a new order in Northeast Asia and on the Korean peninsula, and creating conditions favorable for reunification. Thus, the Korean peninsula cannot be left as a divided land frozen by a cold war.

Our reunification is now becoming practical. Our reunification, however, should never be accompanied by bloodshed and innumerable tragedies. We are trying to achieve reunification through peace and order and through reconciliation of the nation which has been divided into the North and the South. I believe that the direction of reunification, which we have claimed and are seeking, is the best choice.

It is our supreme mission to make the most of the reunification opportunity now facing us through world changes. Because we were lacking in strength, could not correctly judge the changes of the world, and, still worse, could not unite ourselves owing to the dissension within the country, thus we had to suffer from the calamities of division.

Now, we should hurry to prepare for reunification. We should prepare for the expenses and effort needed for reunification. In addition, we should prepare ourselves for a challenge which we will have to face in the process of achieving reunification. Thus, it is important that we should all think of the vision of a reunified Korea.

The Advisory Council for Democratic and Peaceful Reunification, which represents the people of all strata and is composed of members elected according to the democratic will of the people of a district, should be a pivot to press ahead with such all tasks. [applause]

Highly raising a torch of reunification which will bring happiness and prosperity to our 70 million fellow countrymen, the members of the Advisory Council for Democratic and Peaceful Reunification should stand in the van in rallying the national strength for reunification. [applause]

Today, we are all convinced that the dark era of division and instability is disappearing and the era of peace and reunification is coming to this land.

We should resolve, together with all the people, to vigorously advance toward reunification and toward the bright future of the nation.

Thank you. [applause]

South Ready To Talk to North on Agenda Issues

SK1207085391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0833 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 12 (YONHAP)—South Korea is ready to make a deal with North Korea when their prime ministers meet Aug. 27 in Pyongyang, agreeing to discuss non-aggression and a basic agreement on improvement of bilateral relations simultaneously, as a single agenda item as has been proposed by the North, a well-placed government official said Friday.

"We have no doubt the fourth round of talks will take place as the North has set no conditions for their resumption. To narrow differences over the two issues that marred the previous talks, we have decided to adopt them both," he said on condition of anonymity.

The decision was in line with Seoul's initiative to find a breakthrough in the talks, last held in mid-December, he said. "It is under consideration whether to discuss the two issues separately or as one single item," he said.

Seoul maintained that confidence building through exchanges was the way to reduce military confrontation and cut arms on the Korean peninsula before adopting a non-aggression declaration. In the December meeting, then South Korean Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun introduced a 10-point proposal. It included exchanges of separated families and replacing the armistice agreement with a peace treaty.

By contrast, the North proposed a "declaration on South-North non-aggression and inter-Korean reconciliation and cooperation," saying that the South's basic agreement could be included in its non-aggression declaration.

Another official, also wanting to remain anonymous, said South Korea's basic position had not changed at all and it still held that a basic agreement should come before a non-aggression treaty. "If there is a reliable device to guarantee non-aggression, it is possible to adopt the two at the same time," he said.

Official: Moderates Gaining Power in North

SK1207015691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0528 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 11 (YONHAP)—North Korea's decision to join the United Nations and accept international inspection of its nuclear facilities shows that moderates and pragmatists are gaining power in Pyongyang, Deputy Prime Minister Choe Ho-chung said Thursday.

"If we go ahead with our policies steadfastly in what we think is the right direction, change in North Korea could be prompted all the more, even though North Korea refuses it," Choe told a breakfast meeting sponsored by the Korean Standards Association.

Pyongyang appears to have a minus economic growth rate this year though it has sought 7.9-percent expansion each year of its third seven-year economic plan (1987-1993), said Choe, who is also national unification minister.

He urged North Korea to resume the prime ministers talks, which Pyongyang suspended early this year to protest the annual South Korea-U.S. "Team Spirit" joint military exercise.

The South will firmly turn down the North-proposed conference for political negotiation in which Pyongyang says Koreans from all walks of life, including politicians and farmers, can discuss ways of reunification, because such a meeting would not improve inter-Korean relations, he said.

TASS Correspondent's Reflections on DPRK

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[Article by Aleksandr Zhebin: "Even in the 'Chuche Republic' North Korea, the Ceausescu Shock..."]

[Text] In the middle of Pyongyang City, near one of the busy crossroads that links the eastern part of the city with the center, there is a homely, rather ordinary looking six-story apartment building. There are numerous buildings like this in the capital city of Pyongyang. At night, a long hallway leading into the building is lit by the dim light of a 25-to-45 watt bulb.

There are some ten doorways along the hall, each with a window near the top. Most of the windows have the curtains drawn. If you walk along the hall and glance inside, you can just about see everything that is going on in the house. Around twenty families live on each floor of the building, and each floor is organized into a "people's neighborhood unit."

These units were formed immediately after liberation in 1945. All citizens of North Korea, excluding foreigners, are organized within the people's neighborhood unit structure. They form the smallest-scale cell of North Korea's government agencies.

The rights and responsibilities of the people's neighborhood unit and its members are recorded on the citizen's certificate which each citizen possesses. People's neighborhood units within the city are usually composed of 20 to 30 families, 40 to 50 people's neighborhood units forming one district's population. Leadership of the district population is left to ward and village People's Committees, with People's Committees subordinate to city and provincial People's Committees.

Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il have constantly shown an interest in these people's neighborhood units. Between 1945 and 1983, Kim Il-song issued over 320 instructions concerning issues ranging from the mission of the units to the on-site duties of the unit leaders. On several occasions, Kim Il-song himself even visited these locations and provided on-the-spot guidance.

Kim Chong-il, whom North Korean media usually call the "glorious party center," has also given directions to continually improve the role of the people's neighborhood units in connection with the work of remodeling all organizations based on the chuche idea. He also has put forth plans to maximize the performance efficiency of unit chiefs.

City-wide people's neighborhood unit assemblies are usually held once a year. The city Party Committee chairman, high ranking officials from the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee, and representatives of the Ministry of Public Security attend these meetings.

The people's neighborhood units became remarkably active during the 1980s, judging from North Korean publications, while their mission also gradually increased. This is rather significant, according to these publications, both in transforming Pyongyang into a capital of revolution in which chuche ideology dominates, as well as in accelerating the construction of socialism within North Korea. North Korea devoted all efforts during the last half of the 1980s into politically and morally educating the citizens of Pyongyang. This was to transform the city into a model socialist capital as well as in preparation for the 13th World Youth and Student Festival held in the summer of 1989.

People's Neighborhood Units, Roots of "Family Revolution"

I was able to visit one of the public housing facilities located in the center of Pyongyang one day in December 1986, some three months after I submitted an application to the Information Department of the North Korean Foreign Ministry. Upon arrival, I was greeted by Kim Ha-sok, chief of the administrative control section of the Pyongyang City People's Committee, and Yun Ok-chun, head of No. 36 people's neighborhood unit, Kyongsang-tong, Chung- kuyok, Pyongyang.

We followed Yun Ok-chun up a flight of stairs, entered her house, and sat down on the yellow-linoleum-covered floor. The sunlit, pleasant room seemed just under ten square pyong. Her furniture consisted of a desk and radio, a chest of drawers, and an earthenware flowerpot placed on the window. Toward the side of the room there was a closet and a European-style bed reconfigured to be a low-built, Korean-style mattress-bed. The floor of the room was warm. That house, like most others, was equipped with ondol [floor-based] heating.

Yun Ok-chun had retired after dedicating most of her life to communications-related work. She was now living off of her pension. Although she spends almost all of her time at home, she seemed like quite an active person. Kim Ha-sok explained that all of these points were taken into consideration when Yun was recommended for the job of people's neighborhood unit chief. Kim stated that the ward People's Committee selects the people's neighborhood unit chief only after listening to the opinions of all the residents in that unit. Generally, the people's neighborhood unit chiefs are chosen from among the pensioners.

Within the people's neighborhood unit which Yun Ok-chun led, there were some 120 citizens in 24 families living between the first and sixth floors of the building. Of these, 15 families were office workers, 6 were workers, and the remaining 3 families were pensioners. The head of a people's neighborhood unit must be thoroughly familiar with all those living within their jurisdiction. Within Yun's people's neighborhood unit, there were 16 people attending the nursery, 6 attending the kindergarten, 15 attending school, and 1 attending technical school. This was a universal ratio for all people's neighborhood units.

Meetings of people's neighborhood unit members are held once a month and at other times as necessary. Usually, the head of each household attends the meeting, and the meeting is held at the largest house within the people's neighborhood unit.

The primary mission of the people's neighborhood unit is to solidly unite the citizens around the great leader Kim Il-song and the dear leader Kim Chong-il. At a plenary session of one city's people's neighborhood unit it was pointed out: "Within the people's neighborhood unit, we concentrate on placing greater effort on propagandizing the great respected and beloved leader as well as the party center Kim Chong-il while actively pursuing ideological education based on chuche ideology and the revolutionary tradition. Above all else, a variety of means and methods are necessary to guide the people to become endlessly faithful to the great leader and the glorious leader.

Systematic study of the works of Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il takes place at the people's neighborhood unit, as well as eduction on the current policies of the WPK, policies which are a concrete expression of the two Kims' instructions. For example, when announcements were made of the contents of meetings between Kim Il-song and the America Peoples' Revolutionary Committee representatives from Peru, as well as Kim Il-song's lecture entitled "The Historical Experience of the Establishment of the WPK," all the people's neighborhood units throughout the country thoroughly studied and discussed these documents. In both documents, both implicit and explicit anti-Russian and anti-Soviet passages were included.

Information, government instructions, and important domestic and international events intended for the citizens are passed via either cable radio or through the loudspeaker which each family is required to install in their home. Foreigners are cut off from both of these media.

The people's neighborhood unit plays an important role in the realization of the so-called "family revolution." The people's neighborhood unit organization is the basis for carrying out Kim Il-song's instruction that all members of society must be guided to become model working class citizens. This begins with the family revolution and spreads to the people's neighborhood unit, working group or team, various social organizations and village revolutions, and finally the revolutionization of the entire society. However, it appears as though the essence of the family revolution is to make all citizens into people infinitely loyal to Kim Il-song and his son Kim Chong-il, judging from the endless stream of publications which emerge.

Even 13-Year-Old Children in "Juvenile Corps"

The most rewarding life in North Korea is not a personal life nor even a life of a naturalist. Rather, it is a political life in which one can continually cause a fusion of leader, party, and the people as a member of the sociopolitical structure. Propaganda to this effect designed by the WPK has been actively used in convincing the North Korean people of the fact that their fate is inseparably linked to the North Korean leadership.

Through daily propaganda, North Koreans' consciousness is thoroughly brainwashed with the thought, "Although I can live without my mother, I cannot live outside the bosom of the dear leader." Ontological value within North Korea can only have meaning when one becomes a "member of the sociopolitical structure." Cut off from Kim Il-song's and Kim Chong-il's guidance—that is, sans their leadership—the life of the people is meaningless.

Under the justification of family revolution, a meeting of families is held once a month. According to "ONUL-UI PUKHAN" [TODAY'S NORTH KOREA], "Families share their experiences with one another and discuss and even criticize each other's good and bad points" during these meetings.

The second important task of the people's neighborhood unit is educating students. This is particularly important since it involves training the "future revolutionaries." Kim Ha-sok asserted that the people's neighborhood unit faithfully links the family, school, and social education, making them mutually reinforcing.

The people's neighborhood unit leader keeps in constant contact with the school which students within his jurisdiction attend and has an obligation to show attention to the results of the education the student receives from both his parents and teachers. Individuals within the people's neighborhood unit such as pensioners who can afford to devote time to youths are tasked with guiding the after-school subjects of youngsters within the people's neighborhood unit.

Basic educational content consists of songs and poems which the youngsters can recite. These songs and poems praise the greatness of Kim Il-song and his son, the great exploits of the two of them as communists, and their toils and pain in caring for the people. Education concerning Kim Chong-suk, the first wife of Kim Il-song and mother of Kim Chong-il who passed away in 1949, is included for young girls.

Most students are not allowed to pass the time as they please when they return from school. Various types of "doing good deeds movement" activities are conducted outside of school classes to fill their free time. This movement is a requirement of all students throughout the country. The sphere of "good deeds" is quite extensive, encompassing everything from raising rabbits to scrap waste collection. NODONG CHONGYON, the official organ of the Socialist Workers' Youth League [SWYL], regularly reports on the amount of rabbit meat and furs contributed by the "Juvenile Corps" to the state. All youths up to the age of 13 enter the Juvenile Corps, and a separate "young-ones five-year plan" is also established for the corps.

The third task of the people's neighborhood unit is to conduct operations to maintain the sanitation and cleanliness of the residential area. The people's neighborhood unit must exert an appropriate amount of effort to conduct repairs on residents' houses, maintain the cleanliness of stairways and halls, and clean the road and certain areas assigned to them in front of the building in which the unit is located. Members of the people's neighborhood unit work to repair fences, build children's playgrounds, and plant trees.

People's neighborhood unit heads also ensure that proper attire is worn in accordance with the "plain and simple socialist lifestyle" of North Korea. Pyongyang citizens during the fall almost simultaneously begin to wear overcoats, and in the spring almost simultaneously these overcoats disappear. Seeing this, it is evident that possibly even the period for wearing overcoats, which are never easy to obtain, is dictated to the citizens through the people's neighborhood unit.

People's neighborhood units also have the obligation to help elderly and handicapped individuals. In this manner, the people's neighborhood unit concretely carries out what WPK propagandists love to call the "greatest socialist system."

Duty of Mobilizing Work Operations and Livestock Breeding

Currently, North Korea's coal, electricity, and fuel situation is completely unable to satisfy industrial and civilian demands. Therefore, the people's neighborhood unit must carefully control whether their citizens are frugally utilizing heating fuel, electricity, or water. The people's neighborhood unit chief attentively watches whether a house keeps its lights on late or whether the sound of dripping water can be heard for an excessive amount of time. They also have the right to demand that it be repaired.

Participating in city-wide, large-scale projects also occupies a portion of the people's neighborhood units' activities. For example, the people's neighborhood units are mobilized to help during the spring with farm labor and also for the harvest. In spite of official proclamations that North Korean rice planting and harvest are accomplished through nearly 100 percent mechanization, during the peak farming periods nearly all people's neighborhood units throughout the country are mobilized to assist.

Within Pyongyang, numerous enormous public buildings were constructed during the 1980s. These were not constructed, however, through the efforts of a minority of architectural and building specialists. The "record-setting short construction period," which tour guides love to tell foreigners about would have been totally impossible without the mobilization of tens of thousands of citizens every day and even throughout the night. This writer witnessed this himself. After finishing their own work, citizens face having to go out to construction sites even late at night. The so-called "Sangbong" (a mid-wife center in the eastern part of Pyongyang) was built like this. This has become a mandatory stop for foreign missions visiting North Korea.

The use of the general populace at construction sites carries special significance since it is related to Kim Il-song's instructions to make Pyongyang a "model socialist city," a "model in all fields, such as politics, economics, and culture." "PYONGYANG SINMUN" reported, "Since all citizens of Pyongyang live alongside the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the party center, they must possess a high sense of civic consciousness. They must be loyal, while obeying laws, social order, and particularly provisos which they must follow as citizens of the capital."

Citizens who do not follow these rules or those with physical defects are expelled from Pyongyang by the government, being unable to fit in as "members of the model city."

Citizens of Pyongyang are required to collect empty bottles, plastic bags, and used oil. Those living on the outskirts of Pyongyang, in other cities, or in the countryside are obliged to breed cattle and pigs and send the fertilizer or manure which they obtain from their family livestock to the state-managed or cooperative farm.

North Koreans have been immersed in mandatory cattle raising in their after-work free time in accordance with the livestock promotion plan. This plan has been conducted as a mass movement since 1981. In the case of the cities, only those citizens living on the outskirts have been tied up in this work. In the countryside, as reported by the party organ NODONG SINMUN, all citizens including key cadre must perform this work. Citizens are given the task of rising two pigs and five chickens per family as a sideline.

Officials stated that each family autonomously chooses whether to take either part or all of the livestock they raise and either donate it to the state or use according to their personal needs. However, when one considers that meat ration coupons exist, as always, and that livestock is forbidden from trade at the market, it logically follows that all livestock raised is handed over to the state. Also, since pigs raised as a sideline can only be slaughtered at a state-run slaughterhouse, then it becomes apparent that the people have no choice but to contribute the livestock they raise to the state.

Pig raising is also accomplished at large-scale construction sites. When this writer visited the Taechon Hydroelectric Plant construction site, he saw there a small pig shed made out of a wood fence.

Temporary Shacks Even in Pyongyang

The people's neighborhood unit also is advised to organize those family members within the unit who are without jobs into homemade handicraft work teams so as to increase the production of daily necessities. Organization of these work teams began in 1978 in accordance with instructions from Kim Il-song. According to Hong Tae-hong, chief of the General Bureau of Light Industry, the great leader thought that there were was a great number of unemployed housewives in Pyongyang. The North Korean Government regarded this as dangerous and, therefore, Kim Il-song wrote the following in his own "Analects".

"The ideological influence which the housewife has on the entire family is considerable. The husband, not to mention the children, all are influenced by the housewife to some degree. Should there be a woman who has distinct remnants of the past within her consciousness, then all she will do is complain constantly about what is lacking and what is bad in the household. Eventually, the husband will grow sick of his wife's endless demands and in order to placate her whims, his own consciousness will be destroyed."

To revolutionize women, therefore, Kim Il-song believed that it was necessary to strive to have women dedicate at least six hours a day to production activities. Moreover, what is referred to as chuche economics has tied up people in projects increasing the number of bronze statues of the leader himself, along with monumental sculptures, scattered throughout North Korea. This has resulted in North Korea being unable to even adequately produce daily necessities for its citizens.

Participation in work teams is basically voluntary; however, all women responded enthusiastically to the "watching eye" of the leader. The government provides citizens with sewing machines in their homes along with textiles. The remaining people are immersed in producing artificial floral arrangements, brushes, knitting, and various daily necessities.

The people's neighborhood unit has the responsibility of monitoring to ensure that all unit members follow revolutionary discipline and order. This entails a wide range of responsibilities from taking preventive measures to ensure harm doesn't come to children at home or in the street to ensuring that all citizens conform to socialist lifestyle in both their action and appearance.

People's neighborhood units have prepared security countermeasures against hostile plots by the "American imperialists and South Korean puppets" as well as domestic factionalists. Accordingly, when a unit member has to leave the house on personal business for an extended period of time or travel to another residential district, he must inform either the unit chief or deputy chief of the fact ahead of time. This rule must also be followed when relatives or guests visit.

When rules are violated in a people's neighborhood unit, the member is criticized in a meeting of unit members if the infraction is a trivial one. More serious matters are immediately reported to the village and ward People's Committees. According to Kim Ha-sok, the most widespread rule infraction is theft. The people's neighborhood unit chief is also in charge of distributing rice ration tickets received from the district office among the members of the unit, as well as ration tickets for such products as meat and vegetable oil.

As we were about to finish our discussion, this writer asked Yun Ok-chun how much she received from the state in exchange for such heavy responsibilities. She answered, "I receive 30 won a month. However, I customarily refuse to accept such money since we can live quite adequately on both my husband's salary and my pension."

We exchanged goodbyes, entered the elevator, and departed the building. The building was quite modern. Each four families to a floor had an elevator. The front door to each apartment had no glass, so it was impossible to look inside. In areas like Munsu or Kwangbok streets, such buildings are constantly being erected; however, there are still not that many modern-style buildings in Pyongyang. There are numerous problems, even in the modern-style buildings. There is no water in the higher level floors and the elevator is inoperable for months at a time.

Many temporary shelters still exist for housing people even within the capital city of Pyongyang. Three to four families live in a typical shelter, with each family occupying one room. The door leading into the room opens up directly into the street. These temporary shelters, which lack plumbing and restrooms, have been erected from Pyongyang's Chogyo District all the way out to the most remote neighborhoods of the city. In the winter, one can easily see the sight of young, nearly naked children, running out into the street to take care of their business at the nearest drainage hole.

Factories With Machines at Standstill

When I visited the Yongsong Heavy Machine Complex located in Hamhung City in December 1989, I was greeted by Kim Tong-il, the chief of the factory's external affairs bureau. I was lead by him to the large building normally used when foreign envoys or North Korean leaders visit. Across from the entrance there was a drawing on the marble wall depicting Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il riding horses side by side as they crossed the summit of Mt. Paektu.

Kim Il-song had conducted on-the-spot guidance on 22 separate occasions here and had issued over 1,500 instructions concerning the enterprise, according to the chief of the external affairs bureau. He also added that in an August 1989 visit, the leader issued instructions to raise the position of the factory to that of a ministry [song] in consideration of the special significance that the scale and products of this factory has in the state economy.

This factory, erected in 1938, is currently operated by over 8,000 laborers and is divided into 30 small parts factories and over 400 work teams. It produces a variety of equipment.

The priority project for this factory in 1990 included filling large-scale facility procurement orders for enterprises such as the Sariwon Potassic Fertilizer Factory, the Tokchon Automobile Factory, and the Munsan Colliery Reconstruction Factory.

Our party went on to the major factory by winding along a soot-covered road. Layers upon layers of soot covered the sidewalk and road. As with other factory areas in North Korea, there was a housing complex inside. The housing complex came right up to the factory. Nothing like a green belt was to be found anywhere.

While there, they showed us a few local factories. All the machines were quite modern. The guide told us that they were manufactured by West European states such as Austria. We felt quite chilly, however, as the lighting and the heating facilities within the factory were insufficient. The workers looked fatigued wearing work clothes which resembled worn-out military uniforms. Even in the eyes of a nonexpert, it appeared that the equipment was either inoperational or used only occasionally.

The monthly wage of a novice in the factory is 60 to 70 won. Even after entering the factory, new employees must complete a two-year course of instruction at a college subordinate to the factory.

Workers who violate rules are not fired. Instead, they must receive "education" through organizations such as the trade union, the Women's League, or the SWYL. WPK members who violate rules are deprived of their right to speak at party gatherings. That is, they are temporarily deprived of their "social-political sphere of life," while other punishment methods such as material sanctions including loss of awards are applied.

Around 20 major accidents occur annually at this factory, according to our guide. These accidents are dealt with at the ministerial level. Insignificant accidents are dealt with at the local factory and work team level. Sixty percent of salary goes to a subsidy for workers who become sick or temporarily lose their ability to work due to work-related injury.

While constantly talking about the living conditions of workers, Kim Chong-il also has talked about their most pressing problem, that of housing. Housing is still only available through parcel by the state. The first priority is given to workers who possess skills and qualifications as well as model production laborers.

Within the ministry [song], there is a hospital with approximately 400 beds. There are also preventive hospitals scattered throughout the country with around 120 beds where workers can go to rest after work, with 150 sanatoriums and 100 rest places provided as well. Workers receive 14 days of paid vacation annually, while workers who perform extra hard are provided with 28.

Workers assigned to the Yongsong Complex are not dispatched to do major farm work, in accordance with orders from Kim Chong-il, because of the special importance of the tasks assigned to the complex by the North Korean Government. However, 150 hectares of land is allocated to fill the complex workers' produce needs. Of this, 120 hectares are for vegetables and 30 hectares are used for a fruit orchard. Around 200 people work at this "cooperative farm." The ministry is also allotted four fishing boats.

That an enterprise must operate a side-line production in this manner is one of the clearest indicators of the failure of North Korea's agricultural administration and the inability of enterprises to supply an adequate amount of food products to the people.

Annual Per-Person Rations of 260 Kilograms

At the Suhung Cooperative Farm in South Hamgyong Province, I was able to get an idea of the status of North Korea's agricultural sector. The term cooperative farm as used in North Korea is totally unrelated to that normally used in the rest of the world. Of course, there is no reason why North Korea's cooperative farms should be any different than other North Korean Government organization as far as management system, organization, and proprietary rights.

The total size of the economic farmland within the Suhung Cooperative Farm is 450 hectares. Of this, 310 hectares are dedicated to rice farming, 90 hectares to orchards, and 50 hectares to dry farming fields. There are 965 people, including office and technical workers, with a total of 425 farm families. This cooperative farm was established in 1958 at the height of agricultural collectivization.

The Suhung Cooperative Farm achieved its greatest harvest in history in 1989. An average of 81 percent more per chongbo [1 chongbo = 2.451 acres] of rice and 79 percent more for corn was reaped. A total of 20 tons of fruits per chongbo were also yielded, with increased production of primarily apples, pears, and apricots.

When we arrived at the cooperative farm, goods and cash already had been distributed among the farmers according to the harvest. An average of one ton of rice, seven tons of corn, and 4,500 won went to each farm family. However, by law each farm family is given only 260 kilograms of grain per person and must sell the remainder back to the government at a rate of 420 won per ton of rice and 280 per ton of corn.

While at the cooperative farm, I was invited to the house where Kim Il-song stayed during his on-the-spot guidance. In this small farmhouse with no fence, there was a pig pen with two pigs, a henhouse with five hens, and a rabbit shed. In the rather clean house which was painted white, there were two rooms divided by an assembled wood partition. The total area for both rooms was around 14 to 15 square meters. In the room were one small desk, two closets, a sewing machine, and a low round-table. We sat on the floor around the table facing each other. Kim Il-song was staring down upon us contemptuously from the four walls of the room.

Under the ceiling of one of the rooms was a lamp with no shade, while the other room had a large-sized cylindrical neon lamp. One lamp per room is the normal lighting in North Korea. It is impossible, however, for a light to emit more than 40 watts. When I asked if the room wasn't too dark, the guide hastily assisted the owner of the house by stating: "Our peasants do not need any more light. Peasants do not like bright light."

The chairman of the management board of the cooperative farm noted that of the 425 farmhouses, 280 had televisions, 40 had refrigerators, and nearly every house had a sewing machine and iron. Televisions are in very short supply and go for 650 won each, one person said with a sigh. Farms are allotted televisions according to decisions made by the administrative office and the party committee. Model peasants have priority.

Aside from watching television, peasants visit the farm village hall during their spare time. Here, movies are shown 12 times per month, and almost all of them deal with the state of production in North Korea. The party organ NODONG SINMUN is the only central daily newspaper to which some union members subscribe. It arrives at the farm around three days after publication in Pyongyang. The remainder of the peasants are satisfied with the regional newspaper HAMNAM ILBO.

"March 16th Model Family" Movement

The cooperative farm has its own hospital facilities. The doctor in charge stated that there were 10 beds at this hospital and a medical team of 11. He also proudly stated that there was not a single patient there at the time. A neatly arranged nursery and preschool were also completely empty. In the first room was a large, attractive model of Mangyongdae, the home of the fatherly leader.

Can citizens leave this village called a "socialist cultural village" and move to the city if they wish? The party secretary of Suhung-ri responded, "Although it is possible in principle, our union members do not wish to depart their home town." He continued, "On the other hand, the youth of the cities greatly desire to move to our village. This year, among the 68 graduates of the upper middle school, 38 remained here and the rest either went to the county or entered technical or professional schools."

From what the party secretary said, it appeared that it was not that simple a task to migrate to the city due to the migration restriction policy. Even a simple visit to Pyongyang requires special permission, and the granting of such special permission is limited as well. During the planting and harvest seasons, no cooperative farm member is allowed to leave his house or go anywhere.

North Korea peasants participate in several mass movements in addition to the traditional farm duties. These movements reminded me of South Korea's New Community Movement [Saemaul Undong] in many aspects. For example, NODONG SINMUN reported that in the Chagang Province region there were large results/products from the "March 16th Commemorative Model Family Construction Movement."

The title of this movement, praised as "the results of the sagacious leadership of the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il," as with other mass movements in North Korea was derived from the date of instructions issued by Kim Chong-il. The leader passed down instructions concerning the movement, stating: "A cultural struggle must be actively expanded among farm village workers both within the production process and in their lives." According to this, mainstay laborers in the agricultural sector gave their support to the reconstruction of "socialist culture villages," rallying together in the movement to form "March 16th Commemorative Model Families."

Ideological education was first carried out at the unit level under the guidance of the party committee so that peasants could have a deeper understanding of the meaning and importance of this movement. Propaganda campaigns were carried out at the work place and in the streets toward this end, with briefings held in various places. So-called "model families" appeared within each city, county, and agricultural industrial complex before the movement began in earnest. Projects were undertaken to propagate their experiences as the movement entered its mass stage. Instructive workers calculated the results of the movement on a monthly basis by region as the scale of the movement spread. This was designed so that from the model family, a "model village" and "model economic area" could be carried out.

The results of this movement were that seven state-operated enterprises and cooperative farms were awarded the "March 16 Commemorative Model Farm Village Economic Area" title, while 181 residential districts received the designation "March 16 Commemorative Model Village." A total of 3,291 families received the title "Model Family," with 737 of these families receiving the title twice and 303 families receiving it three times.

Farm village residents also participate in the production of herbal medicine. People must gather edible plants during the spring because of the marked deficiency of vitamins in their food.

One of the projects for which youths are universally mobilized is digging up rock fragments and cleaning the sides of roads which pass through their villages. When our party's column of automobiles passed through, they faced us and politely greeted us to the degree that it evoked our admiration. However, the North Koreans who accompanied us merely stared coldly at this greeting.

In 1988, I visited the fishing village of Soho. The Soho area provided a most characteristic depiction of the problems North Korea is currently encountering in the fisheries sector. Up until 1985, fishermen in this area had raised their catch to 560,000 tons annually. One official explained to me that this economic zone had twelve vessels including a refrigerated troller and small-sized vessels equipped with 75-horsepower engines and refrigerated processing facilities.

However, as with other economic areas, there has been a recent drastic decline in fish catch. This primarily originates from the indiscriminate fishing of fingerling during the spawning season and was worst in 1988, when their catch totalled a mere 9,000 tons. Thus, the fishermen of this village took the concrete step of turning their attention toward breeding hard-shelled mussel and tangleweed in accordance with the instructions of Kim Il-song concerning the "cultivation of sea culture." Although a significant portion of the catch in this sector is exported to Japan, the economic area did not receive any type of foreign currency deductible from the government in return for their exports.

After the deep-sea fishing administrative office was established, fishermen in the Soho area lost their right to operate on the open seas and had to dedicate themselves solely to coastal fishing operations. Because of this, those who had been deep-sea fishing lost their means to obtain foreign currency which had been paid to them on special chits. A quick change to "fishing farm management" was the only way out for the fishermen of the Soho area, one official told me.

Stores Without Merchandise

As mentioned above, I visited a people's neighborhood unit, the most basic unit of living for North Korean citizens. After that, I visited a factory and cooperative farm, people's work places, and then a fishing village. Our next visit was to follow the people to the store where they went after finishing their day's work and the mandatory two hours of listening to reporting of domestic and international events as well as political training.

At the store entrance was a sign informing customers: "This month's daily rations are: for soy sauce, 30 grams per person at 5 won each, for bean paste 20 grams per person at 4 won each." This sign was above the window which divided the showroom from where the customers stand. There were more than 10 women carrying plastic buckets and pails impatiently waiting in line. The manager was searching through an open accounts register, comparing it with the vouchers that the purchasers handed him.

Soon afterward, the voucher was handed over to the salesperson at the next window who opened the lid of the soy sauce container and poured soy sauce in the containers held out by the customer. One grandmother asked the girl sitting behind the partition if she would let her use her voucher from the previous month since the grandmother was unable to use it then. The girl did not appear the least bit moved by the grandmother's appeal.

This scene, which I witnessed around March 1990, was probably no different than that seen in the hundreds of other stores in North Korea. Indeed, this store was no doubt better in this regard than others, since it had a sign on the store entrance proclaiming: "This store is struggling to win the Three Revolutions Red Flag." The remaining rooms in this store, located in the center of Hamhung, were completely empty.

Scenes in a store selling industrial products were the same. In this store, the purchaser had to present the family register, address, and citizen's certificate as certified by the seal of the housing administrative office housing management office, as well as a ration ticket affixed with a seal. One woman came into the store intending to buy a sweater for her son. One price tag which was marked at 36 won had a new sticker attached to it reading "marked down to 31 won, 60 chon."

The woman told me, "This is an April holiday gift." April 15 is Kim Il-song's birthday. On this day, primary and junior high school students as well as college students receive school uniforms and school supplies as well as confectioneries in the name of the "great leader." They are also able to purchase "gift items" such as sweaters at a reduced price. The press reports on these "gifts of love" which the leader sends to the people. One stereotypical propaganda which the controlled arts enjoy using pictures a little girl sleeping peacefully with one of these gifts laid above her head.

The best selling items in this store were children's wear for two-to-three-year-olds. However, the only people who can purchase such items are those whose children either attend a preschool or nursery or are registered with that store. Although I expressed my intention to purchase some children clothes, I was rejected. Instead, I purchased a few neckties which were priced at 12 won each as a "special consideration" as well as some children's white underwear made of synthetic fiber priced at 18 won. The average wage of a common North Korean is 90 won per month. If you subtract the amounts spent here and there, then around 50 to 60 won at most remains. Considering this, these goods were not at all inexpensive.

Chu Pae-kyu is the vice chairman of the administrative economics committee in charge of commodities in Sinhung-kun, South Hamgyong Province. He is allotted 40 stores for 80,000 citizens, and, among those, seven are allotted to the central organization of the county, he noted. This corresponds with North Korea's standard average of one enterprise per 2,000 citizens.

Purchase of Goods Totally Controlled

The so-called "purchaser's family register" is an important document to purchase goods in North Korea. Based on this document, North Korean citizens receive permission to buy goods within the government's sales system. Each family is provided with one family register. It is maintained at the store assigned to the area in which the family's address is located. For example, one official told me that the largest store within Sinhung-kun, the County Department Store, has 1,870 families registered with it.

The register includes such entries as family members and their annual income. Annual income includes anticipated income from the sale of two pigs to the government, which are mandatory for citizens in the provinces and outlying areas of big cities.

On the register, there is a special column titled "family ceremonies." This lists six occasions when North Korean citizens are permitted to purchase extra amounts of goods above and beyond the normally authorized purchasing limit. This list of family ceremonies helps in understanding the general value system in North Korean society today. It includes the 16th and 17th birthday celebrations, wedding ceremonies, the birth of a child, and the death of a family member. "Other family events" is listed as the sixth item.

Next on the register is a column titled "living prospects." Here, 17 items of durable consumer products for family use are listed. The possession or nonpossession of the given goods item is listed in this column, along with the date of purchase and the length of usage as fixed by the government. Televisions, sewing machines, watches, blankets, bed sets, curtains, hats, and overcoats are on this list.

There are also entries in the register for "kitchen furniture," "textiles and clothes," and "anticipated income."

In this manner, the "purchaser's family register" provides the government with literally total administrative control over the citizens material situation. This prevents the accumulation of property, which the government regards as excess material, while allowing the government to more tightly control its people by excluding addresses which citizens might voluntarily change without approval from the authorities.

Once a year, a store salesperson takes orders from and visits the households of families registered with the store to see if there are any new orders for goods which are on the register but which they actually might not have, or what the families plan to purchase during their family ceremonies.

Based on this document, the store places an order with the county commodity administrative office. The county commodity management section prepares an annual plan for commodities which their county residents require by month and by district. One employee of a county commodities office stated that the goods which are ordered are supplied in a timely manner. However, he did acknowledge that the amounts supplied of some items fall far short of the amount ordered. He noted that televisions were particularly in short supply.

There is a difference between regions in the standard amount of sales of the most demanded living necessities and food products. Pyongyang is in a special position, and a considerably varied number of goods are available more than in other regions.

Beef Is Not Even Seen on Holidays

The supply system for food products is considerably more complex, composed of both stores and special distribution centers. Basic foods such as rice are issued at distribution centers. Rice is generally issued once every four months, and occasionally it is replaced with around one half of the daily ration of corn or other cereals. Sugar and other such scarce foodstuffs are also issued here.

The ration system provides 700 grams of rice per day for an adult laborer, with 800 grams provided for workers of heavy industry. Students and children receive 500 grams per day, while nonworkers and pensioners are allocated 300 grams per day. In reality, however, normally 600 grams per day is the standard amount provided. This is connected to movements being carried out to assist in national defense and fatherland reunification projects. According to a few documents I have received from a few North Koreans, there are some times when the standard amount dips down to 400 grams per day.

I discovered that the individuals who had been accompanying us on our trip from Pyongyang were receiving three small ration tickets daily which closely resembled postage stamps. On this ration coupon was a stamp which read "rice 200 grams." This ration ticket is used to pay for food in city meal facilities or restaurants in other cities on business trips. One close North Korean friend of mine told me that members of certain classes in North Korea are allocated special standard amounts of rations in industrial and regular products. This special standard amount is applied to middle-and upper-level cadre of the WPK, upper-level military bureaucrats and senior generals, senior officers of the Ministry of Public Security, and family members of anti-Japanese patriots.

The government has devised a so-called "basic" as well as "supplemental" list of foodstuffs for its citizens. Fermented soybeans, soy sauce, bean paste, salt, corn, and oil all fall under the first category. Bath soap, tooth brushes and toothpaste, cigarettes, and shoes fall into the category of nonfoodstuff necessities. These items are sold without prior orders during set time periods according to established standard amounts. This standard amount varies from region to region.

Supplemental commodities include meat and processed meat products, fish, sugar, confectioneries, noodles, and bread. The standard fish ration is 200 grams per person per day, with one kilogram of pork rationed per family for one month. The price of pollack, which is the most commonly seen fish in North Korean stores, is 50 chon per kilogram.

Meat, however, only is available at the market generally twice a year, once on Kim Il-song's birthday and once on Kim Chong-il's birthday. Of course, only individuals registered with the appropriate store are allowed to purchase meat. The price of pork in one Pyongyang store in which I stopped on 16 February [Kim Chong-il's birthday] was around 7 won per kilogram, while chicken was 3 won 80 chon per kilogram. Beef is not available at the market even on holidays.

A North Korean citizen must go through a difficult process to purchase meat. First, when he walks into the store, he must present a thick ledger as well as his own [citizen's] certificate to a girl sitting in the corner. After comparing the ledger with the certificate, the female supervisor must enter by hand the goods to be sold—in other words, the meat—into the ledger. Then the purchaser's small round stamp must be entered in the entry column. After that, the purchaser presents the money and receives the voucher, after which he receives the meat for which he had been waiting so long.

Only one place freely sells meat and processed meat products. This is at a store in Pyongyang established for foreign embassy employees stationed in North Korea. In 1990, beef sold at this store for 8 won 50 chon per kilogram, which is around U.S. $4.00. Foreign exchange designed for use by foreigners, not the currency which normal citizens use, must be used at this store. This store also suffers from abnormal supply and demand. When meat ration days come to an end, beef, which is especially hard to find, will suddenly stop being sold.

The meat shortage is offset to some degree by restaurants which sell dog meat. Such restaurants are especially numerous in Pyongyang. Dishes prepared with dog meat are comparatively expensive, running an average of two won.

Going to the market in search of fresh quality goods in North Korea is a useless waste of time. Even in Pyongyang, the markets are like wartime second-hand goods markets, with a small number of items available and what there is in total disorder. Nearly all market people are draped in thick padded clothes like Mao Zedong used to wear. Tofu is available in the market, while red peppers are extremely rare. Hens can be purchased at 30 to 50 won each, and potatoes are sold at 22 to 25 won per kilogram.

Impromptu markets recently have sprung up in Pyongyang, selling a variety of home-use daily necessities and other handicrafts. Pyongyang people use their free time to put their goods out for sale. Items such as small mirrors, wooden clothes hangers, lamp posts, and useable empty bottles may be bought here.

The relatively inexpensive price of food products under the state's food rationing system is maintained by government subsidies. These subsidies take into consideration the common person's low income and deducts a certain amount from the price. The result, as reported by MINJU CHOSON is that laborers receive food "almost for free." According to a report in the February 1990 issue of ONUL-UI PUKHAN, the government purchases rice from the peasants at 65 chon per kilogram and sells it at a cost of 8 chon. Other grains are purchased at 41 chon per kilogram and sold at 6 chon. Thus, each family in essence receives annual subsidies of 560 won thanks to this system. This magazine reports that this figure coincides with the annual food expenditures of a middle class family in Sinhung-kun. Annual total expenditures of a North Korean family amounts to around 1,500 won, with 500 won of this going toward the purchase of food.

Inequalities of Foreign Exchange Stores

Work has begun since the mid-1980s on creating a sales company and public distribution network in North Korea. This provides a service for foreign currency certificates which are divided into freely convertible currency (CKB) and so-called "blue won" and "red won." Foreign exchange certificates are issued for exchange with the inconvertible currency of socialist nations and are received from representatives of Cuba, Mongolia, and Vietnam. North Korea still has not changed to a freely convertible currency in the area of commercial trade with these countries.

In spite of all the officially propagated slogans of "revolutionary" equality, North Korea concluded that it was not desirable overseas only to consume foreign currency, which it desperately needs, without making some. The result is that it increased the inflow of freely convertible currency into North Korea from the numerous Korean compatriots residing in Japan, Canada, and the United States. Overseas compatriots have been sending foreign currency to their relatives in North Korea for some time.

There are currently some 30 stores, eating facilities, and restaurants which handle freely convertible currency in Pyongyang alone. Nearly all of these establishments are companies established jointly with capital investment from overseas compatriots. Here, goods which have come in mainly from Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, and West European countries are sold. There are also numerous goods from South Korea and the Republic of South Africa. There is quite a large selection of items ranging from children's underwear to automobiles and imported fruits. However, the price is extremely expensive. For example, Japanese shirts range from 30 to 50 dollars, shoes from 50 to 100 dollars, and suits around 350 dollars each.

At stores like these, there is normally a foreign exchange center which changes foreign currency into foreign currency certificates or "blue won." At these stores, all prices are marked in blue won. The officially posted rate of U.S. currency is one dollar for 2.2 "blue won." However, the black market rates between the won and dollar are another story. One time I witnessed a lady enter a store and buy "blue won" from another purchaser using the regular won which circulates in North Korea. She paid 40 won for 1 blue won. Based on this simple calculation, with the average monthly wage in North Korea being 90 won, in essence North Korean citizens work in order to make one dollar per month. Of course, in reality that is not the case. Government subsidies work to compensate for the difference.

The "red won" appears to be used on an extremely limited basis, only accepted at stores for use by foreign envoys and a handful of international hotels. For the same exact goods, the "red won" price is three to six times higher than the "blue won." Moreover, the selection of "red won" goods is limited. There are numerous goods which North Korea can purchase from socialist states with their inconvertible currency. North Korea sells these goods in stores, receiving freely convertible currency.

Economic problems and the people's standard of living are important topics in North Korean newspapers. These problems literally affect all people in North Korea, so it is only natural that heated discussions and conflicts of opinion would occur. Even if such a debate is ongoing, however, it is being hidden from the masses. North Korea's economic woes are consistently ignored to a surprising degree in North Korean newspapers, debate concerning these problems being buried far below the daily stereotypical propaganda which states that thanks to the "consideration" of Kim Il-song and the "sagacious leadership" of Kim Chong-il "all people are living equally well" and "without worries about food, clothing, or housing."

What is clear is that even through the voucher ration system which has been maintained for the past few decades, the people's demand for food products or industrial products has not been satisfied. Excluding the one suit which can be purchased every two years and the small amount of rations one can buy, there is really little else within this ration system which could be purchased with what little remains of the money that the people have conscientiously worked to earn.

The astronomical difference between the official price and the actual exchange rate of the dollar is one piece of evidence which testifies to the absolute lack of high-quality goods and services. North Korean authorities, thanks to the voucher ration system, have attained total equality by depriving the absolute majority of the people of any possibility of improving their quality of life by earning money on their own. At the same time, the authorities promote inequality by opening the doors of foreign currency stores for a minority of the privileged class.

While well-dressed young people—children of high ranking party cadre or government officials—blow 40 to 60 dollars a night at the exclusive foreign currency restaurant of the Koryo Hotel, their contemporaries can only stand outside and stare through the large glass windows of the hotel. One North Korean expressed his worries to me about this, being intimately familiar with the trends appearing recently among young people to sacrifice all that they have in order to obtain foreign currency, to go overseas to study or find employment, or to meet a benefactor with these objectives in mind, as well as the gradually increasing cynicism of young people hidden beneath the mask of being 100 percent "Kimilsungists" on the surface.

The Changing "Taean Work System"

One prescription developed by the Pyongyang authorities to improve their situation without shaking the base of the system is the Taean Work System. North Korea's leadership has introduced this method throughout all sectors of the state economy believing that they could improve economic administration and revive their economy without weakening the control they enjoy.

The Taean Work System was established in the process of Kim Il- song's inspection of an electric machine company on the outskirts of Pyongyang in 1961.

The crux of the system is to reject the dictatorship of management located at the point of production while introducing a collective leadership system of the party committee. This collective leadership system becomes the highest leadership organization of that enterprise. The Taean system thoroughly achieves leadership for the establishment of the party's socialist economic construction, eradicates bureaucratism and technocratic attitudes, gives the production masses the right of industry management, and allows them to actively participate in this management.

Currently, the Taean Work System has been introduced into all industries in North Korea. In order to find out how this system actually operates, I visited the Taean heavy machine factory. The party committee secretary of this complex, Kim Song-su, was my guide.

The Taean factory, which previously had produced five to 10 horsepower electric motors, has grown to be a first class complex accommodating eight enterprises, a construction planning bureau, and an industrial school in the 30 years since Kim Il-song developed this new work system. The main factory is currently producing turbines for 125,000 kw hydroelectric generators and 50,000 kw thermoelectric generators, as well as medium- and small-sized hydroelectric generator turbines, transformers, electric motors, mining equipment, metallurgy, chemical and cement manufacturing equipment.

Of the over 20,000 employees of the complex, some 7,000 are WPK members. This is the highest ratio of party members to employees compared to other complexes across the country. The party committees of each industry at the complex have a responsibility to report to the complex party committee. Subordinate to them are the primary party organization comprised of over 100 party members, the party sub-team [tang punjo], and party cells. A party cell is composed of five to 30 party members.

Members of the party committee of the complex are elected to one-year terms. The committee is composed of around 50 members, including the responsible secretary; secretaries in charge of organization, propaganda, and workers; the SWYL; the Women's League; management; the senior technician; leaders of major departments; technical experts; and skilled laborers. There is also a permanently established organization composed of some 40 members within the party committee. This is where the organizational, propaganda, general affairs, workers', education, and quality control bureaus as well as the Three Revolutions Teams are attached.

This party committee structure is said to assist in thoroughly examining any type of problem, arriving at a suitable decision, and implementing that decision. The responsible secretary of the party committee of the complex, in consideration of the relative importance the Taean Complex occupies in the state economy, is elected on recommendation of the WPK Central Committee. In other words, in actuality he is appointed.

One of the important intentions behind the Taean system is to resubordinate the large complex committee and individual industry party committees to the provincial party committee. These committees are granted the same authority—that is, decision-making authority on important matters such as party admittance—that the county committees enjoy. Accordingly, the responsible secretary for the Taean Complex also simultaneously serves in the position of responsible secretary for the WPK county committee in that area. This individual in reality enjoys unrestricted power, considering that the secretary of the WPK county committee has ultimate power in that area.

Thus the executive committee, composed of the Taean Complex party committee and its members, can apply thorough control in all realms of both that industry as well as the county. All citizens of that county either work at that complex, work in a factory which produces necessities or food stuffs to the workers of that complex, or in a cooperative farm which supplies goods.

All the secretaries, managers, and senior technicians of the individual industries as well as the chairman of the county economic administration committee, the chairman of the management committee of the cooperative farm, and the head of the county regional branch of the Ministry of Public Security attend meetings of the executive committee of the Taean Complex. Concrete measures for the realization of party politics as well as actual operational problems of the complex are discussed at these meetings.

The responsible secretary hosts the meetings of the party committee and the executive committee. The details of decisions handed down from here are delegated to each subdepartment of the party committee. The manager and the senior technician (whose function within the factory is similar to a military's chief of staff) execute the details of these decisions through the appropriate sections within their jurisdiction at an administrative and technical level. Accordingly, the actual management leadership of the complex is composed of the responsible secretary, the manager, and the senior technician.

Articles have been appearing often in North Korean newspapers recently on the importance of concordance of opinions and actions of the party secretary, the manager, and senior technician for the realization and successful execution of the collective leadership system. Articles have also come out saying that the "dear leader" himself has had a direct interest in this problem.

These articles speak for the fact that the role of management and technical expertise, which had been pushed back to a secondary position when the Taean Work System was introduced, is rising once again. It also admits that party workers, although more revolutionary in consciousness, have no particular knowledge concerning production, and are at a point where they need to more closely consult with technicians. Although at first glance this may appear to be due to the more complex and diversified economic relationships, it also may be seen as evidence disproving the Taean System, in that North Korea has begun to clearly recognize the mistakes of the past where attempts were made to solve economic problems with noneconomic methods.

Three Revolutions Teams Grasp on Production Units

With the help of a variety of organizations such as the SWYL and the Democratic Women's Union, the WPK Central Committee is able to lead the workers in the political, ideological, and economic mass movements advanced by Kim Chong-il. The sphere of participation is determined depending on the concrete objectives and character of the movement.

The most important large-scale movement in which all members of complexes participate is the movement to win the red flag of the three revolutions. At the complex, this movement is led by Three Revolutions Teams [TRT] composed of around 50 individuals. The TRTs are known to be composed of young people trained to be personally loyal to Kim Chong-il, the creator and leader of the movement. Their job is to observe whether the regional party structure and administrative organizations faithfully carry out the instructions of the movement in their activities. The great majority of the TRT members are graduates of Kim Il-song University or Kim Chaek Polytechnical Institute.

The tasks of the TRTs primarily involve ideological indoctrination. They conduct training on endless loyalty to the "party and leader" centered around Kim Chong-il. These teams also participate in decisions on production issues. The leaders of TRTs are not members of the WPK Central Committee, yet may participate in meetings of the committee, take part in various issues related the Three Revolutions Movement within their enterprise, and make direct contact with the WPK provincial party committee or the Central Committee.

The leaders of the TRTs have authority to directly participate in the applicable subdepartment within the central party which is responsible for the Three Revolutions Movement. What can be deduced from all of these facts is that the TRTs not only control the regional party and economic leadership at all production levels within North Korea, they also directly analyze various situations and, as necessary, are prepared to assume the leadership of the applicable enterprises and organizations.

One distinctive characteristic of the Taean Work System in addition to the collective leadership structure of the party committee is the concept of "support from the top downward." That is the means by which the "shock units" [yakjindae] composed of necessary experts such as the senior technician or assistant technician and chairmen of party committees directly step forward on the spot at the work place in order to make decisions on various problems concerning production.

North Korean media has been emphasizing that the Taean Work System, as the most appropriate and outstanding system of economic operation, allows for management of the economy "in our style." Recently in North Korea there has been much talk concerning the democratic nature and "suitability of the socialist collective character" of this system. In other words, that the party committee's collective leadership system is most suited to allow for expanded worker participation in the management of enterprises.

Simultaneously, there is not one word mentioned in North Korea concerning the economic as well as scientific and technological development in those countries which are adopting traditional market economies. The media is completely silent on the perestroyka of market mechanisms which have occurred in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, especially on privatization, the process of introducing market economies, and the reduction of management control of the central government.

Beginning to Invest in "Human Sector"

Data which appeared in North Korea, however, not only failed to substantiate that the Taean Work System was effective, but actually proved that the system failed to realize its creators' expectations. The peremptory and subjective method of approach towards leadership of the people's economy by the upper levels of the state leadership did not allow for the accompaniment of managerial reform at the individual economic structure and enterprise level.

Although this system does have its positive aspects, we can see the actual theory and realistic line of the North Korean leadership—that is, their tendency to disregard economic laws, the market, and relationship between goods and currency. On one hand, the government enthusiastically proclaimed repeatedly that they would provide an opportunity for first-line production workers to have more participation in the decision-making process by sending the leadership "downwards." In reality, however, the people continued as in the past to lack any motivation to improve productivity. The rigid ration system was continued as before, with the military maintaining first priority for goods. The result is that society is in decay due to exclusive political investment which fails to provide even daily necessities for the people.

There is evidence that North Korea's leadership has begun to recognize the importance of greater investment in the "human sector." Proof can be seen in such programs as the irrigation and active construction of 500,000 hectares of land at the Sunchon Complex and Sariwon Potassic Fertilizer Factory, which is the top priority for the seven-year time period from 1987 to 1993. Of course, it is expected that these programs will come out of the provincial budgets.

The sixth meeting of the sixteenth plenum of the WPK Central Committee was held in June 1989 to stimulate such movements. The major topic at this meeting was the issue of rapidly increasing production of necessities and foodstuffs. It was decided at this meeting to solve this problem through the realization of a revolution in the light industrial sector. The essence of the meeting was that "in the near future," the production of foodstuffs would be increased 3.2 times, necessities would be increased 2.5 times, and the quality of light industrial products would be improved to world levels within two to three years.

What is noteworthy is that the plenum approved methods of cooperation with overseas partners such as joint ventures to achieve this goal. This primarily consisted of the opening of factories in joint venture enterprises in the light industry and food production fields with foreign enterprises owned by Koreans residing in Japan. For the time being, these goods are used for export only.

It is still difficult, however, to find any indications that the North Korean Government is prepared to allow the general populace to use the fruits of liberalization to the greatest of their desires. In other words, to provide them with opportunities to earn more money and to allow them to spend this money as they wish. In a letter sent to participants in the workers meeting of the Ministry of Labor held on 27 November 1989, Kim Chong-il pointed out, "Should a wage payment system for labor be uniformly imposed, the people's revolutionary determination will decline, vagrants will begin to appear, and this will be a major harm to the construction of the revolution."

He also noted, however, "On the other hand, if a gradation of wages is applied commensurate with work, then the people will only show an interest in material rewards or personal income. This would lead to a weakening of the collective spirit of the workers and cause fissures in the strong base of our political and ideologically monolithic society." In conclusion, Kim Chong-il emphasized, "Naturally, we must solidly maintain a socialist system of distribution according to work. To do so, we must make political and moral heightening our first task."

100 Percent Voter Turnout, 100 Percent Approval

Clear proof that chuche ideology in North Korea is not omnipotent can be found in the endless cabinet reshuffles the leader and his successor have made. North Korean press loves to discuss South Korea's "frequent cabinet shifts," using them as their own diagnosis that the South Korean system is on the verge of collapsing. However, during the seven years which I worked in Pyongyang, I did not witness even one editorial or article analyzing the cabinet reshuffles within North Korea's administrative branch, which were more frequent than those of South Korea.

From February 1984 to March 1990, the premier of the State Administration Council [SAC] changed four times, from Yi Chong-ok, to Kang Song-san, Yi Kun-mo, and finally the present premier Yon Hyong-muk. All of these individuals, however, are stereotypical personalities chosen as though they were drawn from a fixed number of cards. As soon as ministers take their seats, they are shuffled around again.

The Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] is a formal supreme legislative body which consistently passes the agenda according to the wishes of the executive. This includes cabinet reshuffles, which are confirmed once every four years, and the annual deliberation and approval of the budget. Members do not even attempt to question or analyze any issues in the economic sector, and individual opinions or amendments are not presented.

The typical means of speaking during the SPA meetings is as follows. First, approval is given to actions implemented "under the leadership of the sagacious comrade leader" by the government during the previous year. Reports from the various enterprises and organizations to which the delegates are attached are then given, followed by an expression of unanimous approval of items for decision presented by the administrative body such as the budget for the new fiscal year. Finally, a statement is made with a sense of personal obligation to exert all effort to carry out the new instructions of the leader.

When either Kim Il-song or Kim Chong-il attend the meetings, the speaker—whether a cabinet member or delegate—will face the two leaders before beginning his speech and politely bow at a 90-degree angle, repeating this action at the conclusion of the speech.

This "uniformity of action" can also be seen in the election process for the government's central and provincial structure. Until just prior to the April 1990 SPA assembly election, according to official statistics, there was 100 percent participation in elections with a 100 percent approval vote for the candidates. This record was broken at the April meeting. An extreme minority of members did not attend the meeting. However, among those that did attend, each and every one of them voted "approval."

There is never any talk concerning election competition between candidates for SPA delegates. That is because only one candidate may run per seat. It seems as though the secret vote stipulated by law has only been held for propaganda purposes when foreign reporters visit. For the first few years I was there I also went to such "display-use voting centers" with other foreign reporters. Later, however, I visited some places on my own where foreigners were not invited.

On Munsu Street, a new town in Pyongyang, the voting center is normally set up in a common room on the first floor of an apartment. The structure of the voting booth is such that anyone who goes into the booth and hesitates for even a few seconds can be immediately detected by the officials working at the voting center. It is only natural that there are no idiots who would defy "danger" while at a voting booth like this.

Law as the Embodiment of "The Instructions of the Two Kims"

During all the time I spent in North Korea, I never once saw a building with a sign which read courthouse or prosecutor either in Pyongyang or in the provinces. With Politburo members, secretaries of the Central Committee of the Communist [as published] Party, and administrative cadre who exercised enormous power suddenly being stripped of their position and disappearing without any official reason, what good would it do for the everyday citizen to say anything?

However, relatives of, and those connected with Mr. Kim, after finishing a certain period of "reeducation," reemerge in high positions. The most flagrant example of this recently is that of Kim Yong-sun, who currently is a secretary of the WPK Central Committee. Kim enjoyed a meteoritic rise until ascending to the position of WPK Central Committee secretary when he suddenly disappeared for two years. Then, just as suddenly, he returned to the Central Committee to temporarily become the deputy individual in charge of the international section before returning to his previous position as secretary.

There is also the story of the restoration of Kim Chung-nin, who previously served as a Politburo member and secretary to the Central Committee. In the early 1980s, Kim was expelled from the Politburo and was even demoted to a general person in charge of a North Korean intelligence organization before being selected again as secretary of the Central Committee at the December 1988 meeting of the Central Committee. At the April 1990 meeting of the SPA, he was appointed to the important position of chairman of the auditor plenipotentiary committee [chongwon kamsa uiwonhoe].

An unfortunate case is Kim Il-song's younger brother, Kim Yong-chu. In the early 1970s, Kim Yong-chu played a central role in the drafting of the April 1972 Joint North-South Proclamation as the head of the WPK Central Committee's organization as well as propaganda and agitation departments. Unfortunately, he became an obstacle to the ascension of Kim Il-song's successor to power. Kim Chong-il, after expelling Kim Yong-chu, took charge of those important posts himself which directly supervise key personalities throughout the country. Although most North Koreans remain silent on the fate of Kim Yong-chu, in private conversations with foreigners they have admitted that currently he is "still" alive but in "very serious condition."

North Korean media does not cover court or prosecutor activities at all. However, in 1977 the Law-Abiding Life

Guidance Committee [LALGC] was formed in accordance with a direct instruction from Kim Il-song. I myself heard about the activities of that committee through Cho Yon-ha, chairman of the Central People's Committee [CPC] law department, and Ham Hak-song, an employee of that department.

According to Cho Yon-ha, in North Korea "laws are enacted based on the instructions of Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il. They are the legal embodiment of those instructions." This committee, located in Pyongyang, is composed of a chairman who is selected from among the vice ministers, a secretary from the CPC, the minister of public security, the head of the central prosecutors office, and other officials. At the county level, which is the lowest level, these committees are formed with the county People's Committee chairman or vice chairman, the People's Committee secretary, the head of the county branch of the ministry of public security, and the county prosecutor.

The LALGC does not enact new laws, but can deliberate on and recommend adaptation of laws. Cho Yon-ha confirmed that this committee is an observation and control vice legal agency. Accordingly, the head of the court is not included in the committee. These committees hold meetings as necessary, usually once a month. They analyze how well the law is followed in their area of jurisdiction, organize legal training for the citizens, discuss means for combating criminals, and give guidance so that all citizens obey the law. This includes those key cadres whom "occasionally fall into bureaucratism" or "infringe on the interests of the people."

The Criminal Code That No One Knows

Subsidiary organizations of the LALGC include the subsections of the legal department of the applicable level People's Committees. They are involved in the actual work of carrying out the decisions of the LALGC. These committees are currently concentrating their efforts on providing legal education to the people with the help of so-called "legal explainers" whose numbers total 100,000 people. They receive their mission from the applicable party committee and carry out their activities directly at the work team, various organization, and work place level. The basic objective of their work is to adequately arm all people with the legal ideology and theories of Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il while teaching them the proper attitude of approach to the socialist legal system so that all people recognize the superiority of socialist laws and obey them voluntarily

Economic rights occupy a clearly important position in the activities of legal explainers. The problem lies in the fact that in North Korea, economic rights are not well established and the myriad of instructions and rules which are propagated by the administrative committee and various ministries and government offices all supersede those economic rights. If one should disobey those instructions, then one is held criminally liable. The number of such instances has been increasing recently.

The LALGC also carries administrative punishment authority, which in other countries is possible only through a trial. The penalty most widely applied to economic leadership personnel at the enterprise level is labor for one year without pay. In this instance, the offender forfeits at a minimum 30 to 50 percent of his pay.

Ham Hak-song explained that the criminal and civil laws adopted in 1974 have been effective until now in North Korea. Knowing that these laws also apply to foreigners residing in North Korea, I asked Cho Yon-ha to show them to me. However, my hopes were futile. For two years after that, this writer was unable to locate those statutes in any book store before returning to Moscow, of course not knowing which laws I myself may have violated in North Korea and how I was able to luckily escape responsibility for any violations I may have been guilty of.

In conversations I had with Koreans I was acquainted with, I learned that disobeying the instructions of Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il, or actions or ideology which detract from their authority, is considered the greatest crime in North Korea. On extremely rare occasions foreigners have been told by intelligentsia and especially officials in the provinces about being pursued themselves for that very crime. Of course, these are people who were not executed.

People who publicly criticize the basis of the system or the cult of personality are not the only ones who are tracked down for violating the law. Expressing displeasure with the order which has been produced by the various activities of the government and administrative organizations which have a direct effect on the daily lives of the people, listening to foreign broadcasts, or reading foreign current affairs magazines are also acts which also fall into this category.

However, as with political crimes, one can only speculate on the exact sentences handed down for these actions. They are probably not as extraordinary as what is described in foreign publications, however.

All Things Start With Kim Il-song

North Koreans live from day to day with their individual rights and liberties extremely limited. North Koreans cannot move their place of work or residence as they wish. Under North Korea's labor law, only in special instances may a person leave his job as they wish. Soldiers who finish their term of service head for coal or mineral mines as they leave their respective units.

Even should North Koreans have an opportunity to change their jobs, it is only so that they may settle down anew in that area. Even then, governmental permission is necessary. It goes without saying that without such permission, one cannot leave the city or village where one is living. Even train tickets cannot be purchased without a certificate. During my time in North Korea, not once did I see on the streets—even on major thoroughfares such as the Pyongyang to Wonsan or Pyongyang to Kaesong roads—a regular bus service like the express busses that run between

Seoul and Pusan. Similarly, it is a waste of time to look for a domestic flight schedule at Pyongyang's airport.

These people, who are not allowed to change their residence or work place, whose hands and feet are tied by a ration system and pathetic salary, have a degrading obligation to show thanks to the "respected and beloved" leader just for their mere existence. The public propaganda presented to these people is that "within the world's greatest socialist system," and furthermore, "within the communist paradise on earth," "where we envy no one else in the world," one should "enjoy a self-dependent and creative life."

This bizarre, exaggerated, yet stereotypical propaganda is one of the most visible characteristics of North Korean society. Within Pyongyang, rather than critically analyzing the past actions of their leaders, those leaders' errorless accomplishments are proclaimed. Rather than learning of better accomplishments achieved by the people of other countries, great efforts are placed only on finding peculiar phraseology to praise the "sagacity" and "great victory" of the leader.

It is even paradoxical that Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il are hostages themselves of their own system. North Korea has reached a point where all aspects of life, even the most trifling, are extremely personified and politicized so that should North Korean society undergo any type of fundamental change in a short time frame, there would be extreme difficulties. Everything that has happened, is happening, or has been implanted in the minds of the citizens through the controlled propaganda, occurs because of the instructions of the leader and his successor, or even better, under their direct leadership.

From the breeding of a new variety of cucumber to economic management systems such as the Taean Work System, there is literally nothing that is not connected with Kim Il-song's name. Thus, it is extremely difficult to denounce any tasks, policies or organizational structures. Anyone who does so can be labeled as a skeptic of the leaders' sagacity. Within such a situation, the best that anyone can do is just quietly forget these "planned instructions."

Another characteristic of North Korea is that society and thought process have been militarized beyond imagination. The word "battlefield" [chonjang] is one of the most prevalently used words in North Korea. North Korean citizens do not WORK in factories, public agencies, rice harvesting, or construction, they "BATTLE" [chontu]. In the mid-1980s, North Korea's economy was divided into five "battle fronts," including Sunchon and Anju. North Korea's transportation, communications, energy, coal, and mining industries, as I witnessed during my visit to the Chonjin Thermoelectric Generating Plant, were all in a "combat" situation. There were no work teams or groups in the coal mine: they were called "platoons" and "companies."

Labor Unions: "Political Education Organizations for Workers"

Workers do not maintain a normal and scientific production rhythm. Instead, they are driven by various contrived movements, such as the "Two Hundred Day Combat," "Speed Battle," and the "Speed Creating Movement for the 1980s." All of these movements generally do not have some economic basis but rather are made to match with either Kim Il-song's or Kim Chong-il's birthdays, National Foundation Day, or the dates on which various meetings are held.

Efforts to arrive at "unprecedented speeds" lead to a tendency to disregard technical standards and rules. Also, they tend to insufficiently examine economic and technical factors concerning plans which have been formulated. There is a psychology to disregard technological power, together with calls to overcome "mysticism" and "conservatism" towards industrial and other facility issues are popular.

As a result of their avarice to quickly flaunt their "spirit of self reliance" and "chuche spirit of economics," North Korea refused even a small amount of assistance from foreign experts in installing equipment which they imported, even before training their own technicians. All of this led to the damage of various machines and serious unfortunate accidents. This coincides precisely with the expression used persistently by the authorities towards the people: "In production and in study, let us use the anti-Japanese guerrilla style!"

The "movement to learn from the example of unsung heroes" was launched in 1979 in North Korea with the direct participation of Kim Il-song. The core of this movement was to consciously deny any material or moral incentives while encouraging devoted work done "in the name of the party and leader." A few years after launching this movement, which was aimed at science and technology workers, scholars, and technicians, the "modestly serving worker" movement was launched, targeted towards general workers and peasants. In order to carry out these movements, all of the WPK powerful propaganda mechanisms were mobilized, while Kim Il-song intimately received the "heroes" which emerged in these movements.

In the majority of states throughout the world, labor unions act as a direct shield to protect the interests of the workers. In North Korea, however, labor unions are not given such tasks. At a meeting of the Korean Workers' League [choson nodongja yonmaeng], Kim Il-song defined labor unions in North Korea as being "political education organizations for the workers." Accordingly, the primary mission of labor unions became the political training of the working class for mobilization in the "Speed Creating Movement for the 1980s."

Kim Chong-pil, the vice chairman of the central committee of the Korean Workers' League declared even more blatantly, "The history of North Korea's labor unions is the history of the great leadership and love of the Great

Comrade Leader Kim Il-song." It is therefore not surprising at all to find that, as official North Korean historical documents confirm, labor unions were directly established by Kim Il-song, and the leader serves as both the supporter and guardian of labor unions.

The Korean Workers' League is totally unable to intervene in any issues concerning daily living or important workers' interests. Issues such as wages and workers' protection, employment and firing are all decided without the participation of labor unions.

There are less than 200,000 members in the 10 industry-specific labor unions that compose the Korean Workers' League. This only amounts for 10 percent of the total population. Compared to other socialist countries, this is a relatively low percentage. This low figure is explained by the fact that in North Korea, one person can normally only belong to one organization. Workers in leadership positions are prevented from joining unions. Women are unable to enter labor unions because they are all members of the Korean Democratic Women's Union. Youth likewise cannot join, as they are all members of the SWYL. Accordingly, the majority of union members are ordinary male adults who are not members of the WPK.

The "Ambitious" Science and Technology Development Plan

Toward the mid-1980s, the North Korean leadership began to pay more attention to the issues of developing science and technology and to utilizing the results of that development. Between 1986 and 1988, this issue was discussed on three separate occasions at general meetings of the WPK Central Committee. In speeches by North Korea's leaders, including Kim Il-song, the words "this is the era of science and technology" began to frequently emerge. In accordance with instructions from Kim Chong-il, more time was devoted to natural sciences and foreign language study at each level of school together with revolutionary eduction.

The goal presented was the following: "We are making this the turning point for development of science and technology. Based on this, we will greatly improve the people's standard of living while promoting socialist construction. By doing so, we will hasten the complete victory of socialism in North Korea." At the sixth plenum of the 13th meeting of the WPK Central Committee held in March 1988, it was decided to reach this goal through the implementation of a three-year plan for the development of science and technology between 1988 and 1990. This plan was derived from instructions issued by Kim Il-song during a 1987 visit to the Academy of Science.

This plan includes sections calling for developing areas such as electronics, biology, and heat engineering up to world levels. One official of the science and education department of the WPK Central Committee stated, "We are establishing plans for fostering the electronics industry to produce integrated circuits, computers, electronics parts, and robots. In doing so, we will be able to improve our economy."

The drafters of this plan view developments in the field of biology as the key to solving North Korea's food problems. Plans call for the development of new breeds of cattle as well as albuminous foods. Research in the area of heat engineering has been tasked with securing a means by which to extensively and effectively use North Korea's inexhaustible supply of stored low-calorie coal in order to satisfy the entire country's energy demands.

Just before 1988, I had an opportunity to talk with the head of North Korea's Academy of Science, Kim Kyong-pong. According to him, North Korean scholars have been tasked with three missions. The first is to make North Korea's economy self-reliant by allowing for the use of raw materials and fuels stored in North Korea. Secondly, they are to modernize the economy by introducing modern science and technology. Thirdly, they are to set up economic management on a solid scientific foundation through the computerization of management and production.

Kim Kyong-pong noted that the first problem which had to be solved was to secure adequate amounts of foods for the populace. This problem is worsening daily both due to the fact that North Korea's population is increasing, on one hand, and the amount of land available for farming is shrinking due to industrial construction, on the other.

A primary factor which influences scientific development in North Korea is competition with South Korea. The following is a good example of how sensitive Pyongyang is to South Korea's success. Two groups of scientists at Seoul's Korea Institute of Science and Technology made Korea the second country in the world after the United States to succeed in a cold nuclear fusion experiment. As soon as that was reported, 17 days later North Korea themselves also reported that they had succeeded in a similar experiment.

Both North and South Korea are attentive to the field of nuclear experimentation, watching each other closely. North Korea, zealously keeping up with South Korea, persistently asked the Soviet Union to construct an atomic reactor in North Korea for them. North Korea clearly was not prepared to construct or operate an atomic reactor and its complex facilities either from a technological or manpower expertise standpoint.

Even after signing the Non-Proliferation Treaty in 1985, North Korea has refused even today to open up their nuclear facilities to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency. The West tends to believe that Pyongyang is developing nuclear weapons.

Regretfully, North Korea's Foreign Ministry did not respond once to my numerous requests to visit the Yongbyon atomic reactor. Although I explained countless times that this would be a golden opportunity from Pyongyang's point of view to disprove claims by the West concerning the facility, they denied my request.

The Goal of Education in North Korea

North Korea is currently hurrying preparations to introduce modern education beginning with elementary and middle schools. Orders have been issued to foster those youth with talent across the country, with these selected youth to receive their doctoral degrees before the age of 30.

I met with the principal of a male upper-middle school located on Munsu Street in Pyongyang. He told me that the school currently had 58 instructors, 36 classrooms, 14 laboratories, and one gymnasium for 1,126 students. Students attend this school for six years from the fifth to tenth grades. Before coming here, students will have studied one year at kindergarten and four years at primary school. This 11-year educational system was introduced in 1975.

The principal listed the subjects taught at the school one by one. History of revolutionary activities of Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il, Korean language, Korean and world history, Korean and world geography, foreign language (Russian and English), math, physics, chemistry, biology, physical education, music, and arts are electives, while drivers education and computers are also taught.

The most important subject among these, the history of the two leaders' revolutionary activities, is allocated two periods of 30 minutes each daily. The history of Kim Il-song is taught twice weekly, while the history of Kim Chong-il is taught once. The grading system is based on 10 points. One school year consists of two semesters, the first running from 1 September through 31 December, and the second running from 16 February until the end of June. Students have a school vacation where they go and participate in a cooperative farm. The state provides students with their uniforms for free, while textbooks and winter clothing is also provided at inexpensive prices.

In order to enter university, recommendations are required in addition to school grades. There, the "social constituency" and "political and moral propensity" of the applicant are recorded. Although around 130 graduate each year, their future depends on the orders they receive from the regional people's education section. This document dictates what percentage of students can go on to college education and what number must get a job in industry.

The school can recommend revisions to this document. Although the student's own opinion is considered as well, the principal admitted that occasionally he cannot help but send the students to where the state needs them. For example, the graduates of a farming village school receive orders saying that all graduates must remain in their home town and work on the collective farm.

The girls upper middle school I visited after the boys was one where Kim Il-song had visited in the past. Up until April 1979, this school, like all others, consisted of both upper middle and primary students studying together. However, the principal noted that the result of separating the two sets of students seemed more beneficial to preparing them for an independent life.

Female students learn sewing and housework in school. Special classes are held for these subjects. The computer class had Japanese-made "Sharp Mz800" computers. What was most impressive about this school, though, was the music teams. All students must learn to play at least one instrument before they graduate. As with other schools, however, the time allotted for humanities classes is gradually shrinking. Ten percent of class time is allocated to physical education and five percent is allocated to production practice.

Physical education in North Korea has a uniqueness that is difficult to find anywhere else in the world. Children do special exercises everyday in order to increase their height. These exercises are done state-wide, and a standard growth-rate for children is set. Upon graduation, a male student must exceed 165 cm, and a female student must exceed 160 cm.

However, the biggest source of pride of this girl's school is that it was there that Kim Il-song issued the instructions concerning the formation of the Red Youth Guard [RYG] formed of 15 to 16 year old students in their final two years of upper education. The mission of the RYG is to guard and protect their hometown villages during enemy attack. In the cities, they are to guard and protect their school and bridges and railways in their vicinity, according to the principal. The RYG are formed into platoons and companies within the school and, as needed, receive weapons training and participate in the defense of Moranbong which is located right next to the school. There is no discrimination between male and female students in the RYG, and rifle marksmanship is their most important task.

Of course a computer class is conducted, and their is an animal museum in which some 780 stuffed animals donated by Kim Chong-il are displayed. Schools with educational facilities at the level of this girls school are still rare in North Korea.

Dearth of Overseas News Available to People in the Provinces

Even North Korea's second largest city, Hamhung, is far behind the capital city of Pyongyang. At a short glance it is easily seen that the new high-rise apartments there are for show, and the construction technology is far behind that of Pyongyang. The buildings there look like they were painted with faded paint. The majority of citizens live in houses which resemble small motels [yogwans]. A good number of residential buildings in the vicinity have vinyl taped to their windows, since glass is in short supply. Even the center portion of roads is completely uneven.

Hamhung citizens can easily be distinguished from Pyongyang people starting with their appearance and clothes. Unlike Pyongyang, most people wear dark brown, wrinkled, worn out clothes such as vests, pants, and skirts which occasionally can even be seen through. There shoes are primarily rubber.

Although I looked for people with smiles on their faces, young girls chattering with each other, or young men enjoying themselves while walking the streets of Hamhung, it was a lost cause. All I ever saw were hurried people with fatigued looks on their faces, people walking side by side not talking to each other, and long lines waiting at bus stations. There were absolutely no passenger cars visible on the streets, only cargo and military trucks, all painted camouflage green.

The reason for the discrepancies between Pyongyang and other provincial cities is that with the exception of Pyongyang, construction costs for housing and regular buildings is appropriated from the provincial and not the central budget. The provincial budget is derived from the meager profits of the industries located there. There is very little money received from industries assigned to the central area.

Additionally, outstanding workers from each of the provinces are temporarily transferred to Pyongyang to help in building luxurious buildings there. This happens all the time, as during the preparations for the 13th World Youth and Students Festival in 1989, or when building "historic or revolutionary sites" related to Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il's activities. Sights like these seen in Hamhung and other provincial cities are proof of just how serious a crisis North Korea is currently suffering.

In spite of propaganda which emphasizes a stoic life-style along the lines of the phrase "Let us emulate the anti-Japanese guerilla unit," people in the provinces are throwing away their useless expectations of the central government and attempting to improve their life in some way through both individual endeavor and family relations. The gradually increasing indifference and even disregard for instructions from Pyongyang has become noticeable. As experience over the past several years has shown, instructions from Pyongyang has led the provincial elite to have no hopes at all.

Change is Beginning

When I made my last visit to South Hamgyong Province in the fall of 1989, mainstay workers, after talking about the various affairs of the organizations which they commanded, listened closely to new information on events that were happening in the Soviet Union and on the international stage. This was unlike the previous time I had visited the region. Such news from overseas had only been coming to them in a most incomplete and distorted form.

The adoption of the joint venture law in 1984 was a conspicuous turning point in the area of economics. Even though North Korea was relatively slow in adopting such a law compared to other countries, the joint venture law is gradually becoming concrete, with nearly 100 joint venture companies in the field of trade, joint restaurants, light industries, and food industries being established. Industrial complexes, general trading companies, and myriad international trade companies began to be founded. Not only that, but talk began to appear in various publications on the application of requisite elements of capitalism such as cost, profit, and pricing policies under socialism, while noting the importance of the necessity to maintain the principle of wage commensurate with work.

The fall of the Ceausescu government greatly shocked both the North Korean leadership and the general public, who until then had been cut off from news concerning overseas events. Newspapers, which on the exact same day the dictator of Romania was executed had published a laudatory editorial on Ceausescu and had emphasized on several different occasions the "special relationship" he enjoyed with Kim Il-song, could not help but report on his disgraceful finish on the day after his death.

There were two interesting phenomena which occurred in the first half of 1990 which appear related to none other than events in Romania. One is that the luxurious receptions which had been held annually since 1983 for foreign diplomatic delegations on the birthdays of Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il were canceled.

The second occurrence was the "vnarod movement" [from the Russian word meaning "to the people," the title of a movement which was undertaken in Tsarist Russia in 1870] which was called on the workers' holiday May Day to demonstrate the especially close relationship between the North Korean leadership and the masses. Such a movement had few precedents there. North Korean television showed leaders offering cigarettes to workers and even lighting them. These leaders included Vice Marshal O Chin-u, a member of the WPK Central Committee, Politburo and Presidium, and minister of the People's Armed Forces; Yi Chong-ok, member of the central committee, member of the Politburo, and vice president; and Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the SAC. These two occurrences showed even more clearly than the thousands of other pieces of evidence that a different era has arrived in North Korea.

In the reception room of the hotel in which foreigners working in North Korea are housed, the portraits of the "leader" and "dear leader" were removed at the beginning of 1991. Just one year ago this would have been regarded as blaspheme.

Within the SPA, the highest legislative organ in North Korea, six new committees have been established over the past two years including international affairs, periphery area security, science, education and culture, trade, and service sectors. In one report issued by the chairman of the budget committee at a recent meeting of the SPA, criticism of countless instances of misuse of funds, waste, and extravagance committed by party leaders was included.

Two churches opened toward the end of 1988—one Catholic and one Protestant—became the first two buildings of worship erected in North Korea. The voices of believers—whom no one knows from where they came—singing hymns cried out, while the first mission of compatriot clergymen bearing passports of the "bitter enemy of the Korean people," the United States, also visited.

Recently, three young people capable of performing the classical ballets of Tchaikovsky and Adang, departed for the Soviet Union to enter the Bakanova [transliteration from Korean] Dance School in Leningrad. At the same time, a classical ballet troupe from Moscow made public performances in Pyongyang and Hamhung for the first time. Music aficionados for the first time in their lives were able to "refreshingly" watch a public performance of a foreign pop music star—the Soviet Union's most popular singer "Alla Pukachopa" [transliteration from Korean].

North Koreans are now able to watch U.S.-produced animated movies as well as French and Italian artistic movies on television. Even newspapers began to carry pictures of new product samples and advertisements of models wearing pre-made suits [yaejong-pok]. In the streets, a remarkable number of stunningly beautiful North Korean women wearing modern expensive clothes and high-heels began to appear.

Intellectuals no longer worry about the staring eyes of the public security apparatus everywhere they go as they had in the past. Although still a small voice, these intellectuals now, in private, are criticizing things about which criticism in the past would have aroused suspicion of them being impure elements. People whose patience has run out, including college students studying overseas such as in the Soviet Union, are increasingly preferring to remain in Western society instead of returning to their homeland.

It is evident that North Korea has now begun to move. A handful of observers believe that this change is extremely slow and fragmented. Even to such skeptics, however, this change is now accepted as being definitely perceptible, even if weak.

Doctors Want To Help Atomic Bomb Victims

SK1207023791 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 12 Jul 91 p 3

[Text] Doctors from South and North Korea have agreed to make a joint effort to secure proper compensation from the Japanese Government for Korean atomic bomb victims, a doctor said Wednesday.

Dr. Yi Cho-kol, head of the Korean branch office of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War [IPPNW], told reporters that it is the first time that medical personnel from the two sides have held a face-to-face meeting since the national division.

Eleven doctors from South Korea attended the IPPNW's 10th general assembly held in Stockholm June 25 through July 1 and three doctors from the North also took part in the session as observers.

IPPNW is an anti-nuclear movement group which claims about 200,000 doctors from 79 countries.

The organization was set up in 1981 in a bid to publicize the ruthless destruction of the environment following nuclear wars and lobby for the end of the nuclear arms race.

"South and North Korean doctors reached the agreement to help A-bomb victims living in the peninsula and abroad," he said. There are still many A-bomb victims alive who were exposed to radiation in Hiroshima and Nagasaki in the closing days of World War II.

They also agreed to endeavor to make the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free zone to deter the threat of a nuclear war in the nation which is crucial for the stability of the Asian-Pacific region, he said.

Yu Myong-kun, superintendent of Kanghwa Hospital, reported to the plenary session about the current situation of Korean A-bomb victims.

Moscow Mayor Popov Arrives in Seoul

SK1207072391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0634 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 12 (YONHAP)—Mayor Gavriil Popov of Moscow arrived in Seoul Friday at the invitation of the Seoul city government.

Popov and Mayor Yi Hae-won of Seoul are to sign an agreement on friendship and cooperation between two cities at City Hall Saturday.

No Tae-u Meets Kim Yong-sam; Urges Order

SK1207015891 Seoul YONHAP in English 2355 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 12 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u called on his Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] Thursday to end the on-going debate over the schedule of the general and presidential elections, saying such a move would only fan public distrust in political circles.

Meeting Kim Yong-sam, DLP executive chairman, at his Chongwadae office, No said, "some people are talking about future political schedules, particularly the general and presidential elections, but this is not desirable for the nation or for the political circles.

"Now is the time when the party should take the lead in restoring social order loosened by the (June 20 local) elections and solving inflation and transportation and environmental problems.

"If the debate over the general and presidential elections drags on, it will only result in escalation of pre-election fever and fan the public distrust in political circles."

After hearing a briefing from Kim on the National Assembly extra sitting now in session, No said the Assembly should show an example of democratic operation to the just-formed local councils.

The DLP hopes to hold the general elections in January or February, but the major opposition New Democratic Party suggests April.

Prosecution Indicts 'Dissident' Kang Ki-hun

SK1207091691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0858 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 12 (YONHAP)—Seoul District Prosecution on Friday indicted dissident Kang Ki-hun, 27, on a charge of aiding and abetting fellow dissident Kim Ki-sol to commit suicide on May 8.

Kang, chief of the General Affairs Section of Chonminnyon (the National Alliance of Democratic Movements), is charged with writing two wills for Kim days before he set himelf ablaze and jumped off a roof.

A prosecutor said that by writing the wills Kang helped Kim commit suicide.

The prosecution says the handwriting in the will is Kang's, but Kang, who surrendered to the prosecution on June 24, continues to vigorously deny all the charges.

Minister Remarks on Foreign Unskilled Labor

SK1207091391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0844 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 12 (YONHAP)—South Korea will not allow in unskilled labor from abroad, but it does plan to follow Japan's example and allow businesses to use foreign workers under training programs, labor minister Choe Pyong-yol said Friday.

Choe, in what was billed as a friendly chat with the Korean Newspaper Editors' Association, said the government had decided against imported labor as domestic resources such as housewives over 30 years old were not being utilized and young people not going on to university were likely to go into industry.

Trade Minister Meets Malaysian Counterpart

SK1207091191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0839 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 12 (YONHAP)—South Korean Trade and Industry Minister Yi Pong-so and his Malaysian counterpart, Rafidah Aziz, discussed bilateral trade cooperation here Friday.

In their talks, Yi demanded that Malaysia cut its tariffs on automobiles and steel to redress the bulging trade imbalance in disfavor of Korea.

Led by imports of oil, timber, liquefied natural gas and other raw materials, Korea's trade deficit with Malaysia snowballed to 878 million U.S. dollars in 1990. Seoul had a paltry 708 million dollars in sales to Kuala Lumpur during the same 12 months.

Aziz briefed Yi on his government's efforts to attract foreign capital and called for an increase in Korean investment in Malaysia.

Aziz will meet Korean businessmen Saturday to explain the investment opportunities in Malaysia. He leaves Sunday.

Textile Exports to Communist Countries Noted

SK1207014991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0043 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Seoul, July 12 (YONHAP)—Exports of textile goods to communist countries jumped 42 percent to 35.9 million U.S. dollars in May over the same month last year, the Korea Federation of Textile Industries said Friday.

Exports in January-May were 158.78 million dollars, up 21.8 percent from the corresponding period last year, according to the federation.

May exports to China were 23.67 million dollars, to the Soviet Union 5.56 million dollars, to Poland 2.77 million dollars, to Hungary 1.36 million dollars and to Yugoslavia 1.23 million dollars. These five nations accounted for 96.7 percent of Korean textile exports to communist nations.

The growth rate is high because these countries are untapped markets for Korean textile products and there is little competition from other countries, an analyst said.

Burma

European Parliament Awards Aung San Suu Kyi

BK1207023391 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Jul 91 p 4

[Editorial: "Aung San Suu Kyi Still a Guiding Light"]

[Text] One of Asia's leading politicians was selected this week as a symbol of hope. The European Parliament's selection of Burma's Aung San Suu Kyi as the recipient of its human rights prize was doubly emphasised. Aung San Suu Kyi herself was unable to attend the ceremony because the regime she defeated in a free election has locked her up without charges. Perhaps even more symbolic was the fact that Europe itself has seen its share of outstanding leaders helping install freedom in their nations. The decision to award its prize to Aung San Suu Kyi is an important show of support for opponents of the Burmese military junta.

Burmese are not the only oppressed people in the world, of course. But the cruel manner of the repression in Burma has made "SLORC" [State Law and Order Restoration Council] a derisory term throughout the world. SLORC—the State Law and Order Restoration Council—holds the dubious distinction of being the only current dictatorship which has allowed free elections, and then ignored the popular mandate entirely. By rights, Aung San Suu Kyi should be prime minister of a Burma moving towards democracy. In reality, she is arguably the world's best-known political prisoner.

She has been held under house arrest since July 1989. Although there are no legal charges pending, her crime is well known both inside Burma and without. She was locked up well before the May 1990 elections because she was going to win the voting. The stunning victory of her party in winning 80 percent of the vote only rubbed salt in SLORC's wounds. In addition to her status as a prisoner, she has undergone official attacks and ridicule for marrying a foreigner, for supposedly committing treason and for planning to sell her country economically to outside investors.

Before such vulgar nonsense and through it, the Burmese lady has retained her dignity, and gained in stature. She has refused the opportunity for years to speak directly against the army. She has turned down exile as an alternative to a wretched life under house arrest. SLORC's spokesman has claimed she has betrayed Burma and Burmese womanhood by refusing to move abroad and become a housewife. The world, including the European Parliament, has come to the opposite conclusion. Her actions and her very bearing have proved she is a citizen most Burmese can be proud of. Many envy Burma for its luck in having such an unflinching symbol of freedom.

Aung San Suu Kyi's European award puts her in the good company of former human rights leaders honoured by the Parliament. She joins dissidents like Czechoslovakia's Alexander Dubcek, Russia's Anatoli Marchenko and South Africa's Nelson Mandela. Like the Burmese patriot, each of these former prize winners were reviled by dictators but supported by their fellow citizens. Aung San Suu Kyi "is being held against her will and that of her people by tyrants who imagine that with their blind attitude they can stop the course of history," Parliament president Enrique Baron Crespo said in his presentation speech. The SLORC would do well to consider these words.

Burma has been prisoner to men with guns for close to 30 years. The economic poverty of the formerly prosperous nation is matched perhaps only by the spiritual poverty of its leaders. It is a land where criticism of the regime in a casual conversation can lead to a 3 a.m. knock on the door, torture, imprisonment, and even death. It is a country where human rights are ignored, popular will is spurned and power grows directly from the barrel of the army's guns.

In short, it is a bloodied country seeking a leader. The people of Burma chose that leader almost 14 months ago, even though she was even then under arrest. No event since then indicates the Burmese believe they made a mistake with their votes. The continued suppression of Burma's loyal opposition, and the continued detention of Aung San Suu Kyi herself, shows instead that it is SLORC which is running scared. The European Parliament's award could serve to hasten the day SLORC is abolished, one way or the other. For that reason, the world should be grateful to the Parliament for helping both Aung San Suu Kyi and Burma on the road to freedom.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

USSR's Maslyukov To Head ASEAN Talks

BK1207135591 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 1330 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Soviet Deputy Premier Yuri Maslyukov will head the delegation for Moscow's first official talks with ASEAN in Kuala Lumpur next week, diplomats in Kuala Lumpur said this today. They said the talks between Moscow and the once staunchly anticommunist ASEAN will take place during the annual meeting of the regional group's foreign ministers on 19-20 July.

The 24-year-old ASEAN had previously spurned the Soviet Union's approaches for a formal dialogue first made two years ago, although the countries individually maintain ties with Moscow.

Minister on Stand on South African Sanctions

BK1207071291 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0332 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, July 12 (OANA/BERNAMA)—Malaysia will decide its stand on the economic sanctions on South Africa based on the latest development, Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said here.

He said its decision would then be submitted to the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers Committee on South Africa because Malaysia was bound by the stand and joint agreement of the Commonwealth countries on the economic sanctions.

"The government must first discuss the implications of the U.S. move to remove the economic sanctions on South Africa," he told reporters Thursday.

Asked to comment on Malaysia's reaction to the U.S. move on the sanctions, he said the government was studying the development.

Abdullah said Malaysia had no objections to proposing the withdrawal of the economic sanctions if all the apartheid policies, laws and practices were abolished in South Africa.

The Commonwealth Foreign Ministers Committee on South Africa should have sat this month but the meeting was postpoed because several member countries could not attend, he said.

Asked to comment on a press report in Bangkok today that Thailand had dropped its claim on a piece of no-man's-land near Padang Besar, Datuk Abdullah said he had yet to receive information on the matter and would contact the Malaysian Embassy in Bangkok for clarification before making any statement.

On Malaysia's decision to participate in the Barcelona Olympics next year despite the re-admission of South Africa, he said he did not see any problems in terms of foreign policy relating to the decision. He believed the International Olympics Committee had studied all the conditions needed before re-admitting South Africa into its fold.

Thursday, Youth and Sports Minister Annuar Musa said Malaysia would compete in the Olympics even if South Africa was present.

Minister 'Not Informed' of Thai Concession

BK1207013991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 12 Jul 91 p A2

[Text] Malaysia is not aware that Thailand has dropped its claim over an area along the two countries' border between Padang Besar district and the northern Malaysian state of Perlis.

Speaking to reporters yesterday in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysian Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said he was not informed that Bangkok had conceded territorial sovereignty over the area known by its popular name as "no-man's-land".

On Tuesday Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin said the question of who controlled the area was now over.

"It is not our territory, but belongs to Malaysia. We have already checked it with the official map," he said.

Abdullah said he would be contacting the Malaysian embassy in Bangkok for further details and if news reports were true, he would discuss the matter with Malaysian Foreign Ministry officials.

On June 30, Thai military, police and customs officers launched an anti-smuggling crackdown on contraband smuggling and other crimes such as drug-trafficking and prostitution in the South.

On the day of the crackdown, contraband traders inside the disputed "no-man's-land" filed complaints with Malaysian authorities that about 30 Thais armed with rifled had entered Malysian territory and "robbed" 10 shops of Bt300,00 worth of goods, mostly electrical appliances.

Following the complaints, about 10 fully-armed Malaysian security forces were deplolyed to the disputed border area.

Immediately on his return last Saturday from an official visit to Latin American countries with Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed's entourage, Adbullah said Malaysia will send an official protest to Thailand over the border intrusion by Thai security personnel.

Abdullah said the foreign ministry had already obtained a full report on the incident and had summoned the Thai ambassador in Kuala Lumpur for an explanation.

Thai Foreign Ministry spokesman Sakthip Krairoek, however, denied reports that ambassador Rongphet Sucharitkun had been summoned.

"As of today, he (the envoy) has never been summoned by the Malaysian government in connection with the border incident," said Sakthip.

The "no-man's-land" issue, a smugglers' paradise, has long been a thorn in Thai-Malaysia relations and frequent squabbles have erupted over the past few years over control of the area.

5 Thais Arrested for Trespassing Forest

BK1107150991 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1430 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Six men, including five Thai nationals, were arrested for trespassing (Bukit Jentian) hill located in the reserved forest of (Sokor Caku), Kuala Kerai. With the assistance of police, the Kelantan Forestry Office arrested these men, whose ages range from 20 to 30, in a raid after receiving a tip-off from the public. Sources from the Chief Minister's Office said they were found cutting trees in the reserved forest.

The six men were brought to the (Macang) magistrate's court so a court detention order could be obtained. (Haji Yusuf Abdul Rahman), an official of the Kelantan Forestry Office, will act as prosecuting officer. The sources added that these men are now being detained at Kuala Kerai police station for further investigation.

Minister Discusses EAEG With Japanese

BK1207100991 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 9 Jul 91 p 6

[By Tengku Sariffuddin T. Ahmad]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Mon.—The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) will continue to play an active role in enhancing regional cooperation along with the proposed East Asia Economic Group (EAEG).

Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said today APEC would provide a platform for discussions between the EAEG and the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) member countries—the United States and Canada.

The proposed EAEG will group together East Asian countries, some of which are not APEC members.

Datuk Abdullah said the EAEG would not weaken APEC as feared by some of its member countries, including Japan, which attached great importance to the existing forum.

"There is no contradiction between the EAEG and APEC. The EAEG is not against APEC, the United States or any other countries," he said after a meeting with five Japanese MPs [members of parliament] at Wisma Putra.

Four of the MPs are chairmen of the policy-making committee of the four main parties in Japan—the Liberal Democratic Party, Democratic Socialist Party, Socialist Democratic Party and Komeito.

Datuk Abdullah said the MPs were satisfied with explanation given to them on the formation of the EAEG. The country has promised to cooperate if ASEAN supported the EAEG proposal.

He said the Japan's cautious stance was understandable since it did not want to jeopardise its relationship with the United States which was its main trading partner.

"I pointed out to the MPs that it was not wrong for Japan to join the EAEG since the United States had formed NAFTA without them.

"I told them the EAEG was not an ASEAN project and the matter would be discussed at the ASEAN ministerial meeting," he said.

Also discussed were bilateral ties and Japan's desire for an active role in resolving the Cambodian issue.

Minister Says Inflation Rate 'Not Alarming'

BK1107093691 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Malaysia's present inflation rate is not alarming and it is still among the lowest in the world. The finance minister, Datuk Sri Anwar Ibrahim, said however the people should save more and not spend beyond their means to help the government control inflation. He was speaking to newsmen after briefing members of parliament on the Sixth Malaysia Plan at his office in Kuala Lumpur. The government too will take steps as [words indistinct] to be cautious although it does not think the inflation rate is alarming in the economic sense because other countries are talking about double-digit inflation rate.

Malaysia's inflation rate as measured by the consumer price index grew by 3.9 percent in the first four months of this year compared to the January to April last year. Datuk Sri Anwar said the situation is more psychological, but there is no question of high inflation in Malaysia. The government is talking about controlling rate, not about the problem of high inflation. He was commenting on concern expressed by the private sector on inflation and the rising cost of labor in the country.

Singapore

Thai Armed Forces Chief Arrives for Visit

BK1107124391 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 11 Jul 91 p 3

[Text] The Supreme Commander of the Royal Thai Armed Forces begins a four-day visit to Singapore today.

General Sunthon Khongsomphong, who is here at the invitation of the Chief of Defence Force, Lieutenant-General Winston Choo, is accompanied by a 12-member delegation.

Gen Sunthon will call on Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, Defence Minister Yeo Ning Hong, and Lt-Gen Choo.

This is Gen Sunthon's second visit here in his capacity as Supreme Commander. His first was from Dec 26 to 28 last year.

Cambodia

Official on Possible Presence of U.S. Red Cross

BK1207081491 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0439 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK July 12—The U.S. Red Cross may send a team to work in Cambodia in August, a senior Cambodian health official was quoted by AFP as saying here.

Mi Samedi, the deputy health minister, said he had invited the U.S. Red Cross to work in Cambodia and that a team would arrive in August.

Mr. Samedi, who recently visited the United States, did not give any details of the nature of the planned operation, but other sources believe the group might work in the provincial hospital in Kompong Speu, 50 kilometres (30 miles) west of here.

A U.S. Red Cross representative visited Phnom Penh earlier this year to look into the possibility of sending aid workers to Cambodia.

The organisation receives some financial support from the U.S. Government.

Minister Comments on Chea Sim Tokyo Trip

BK1207103691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1024 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Bangkok, July 12 (AFP)—Chea Sim, the second-ranking leader in Phnom Penh's pro-Vietnamese regime, arrived here Friday for separate talks with Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin and Army Chief General Suchinda Khraprayun.

Mr. Chea Sim, who leaves here for Tokyo on Saturday, would meet the two men later today, said a Foreign Ministry spokesman.

Although officials gave no details of the talks, they were expected to centre on the Cambodian peace accord reached by the leaders of the four warring factions in the Supreme National Council (SNC) earlier this month in Thailand and the upcoming talks in Beijing between members of the SNC.

Mr. Chea Sim, Phnom Penh's National Assembly chairman, is considered a hardliner within the regime, which was installed 12 and a half years ago by Vietnam's invading forces after they toppled the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge.

He is concurrently number two on the Politburo of Phnom Penh's ruling communist party.

In Japan Mr. Chea Sim will be the guest of ruling Liberal Democratic Party MP Michio Watanabe.

(Cambodian Foreign Minister Hor Namhong said in Phnom Penh Friday, "I think he will have important meetings in Tokyo with the leaders of the Japanese Government."

(He said Mr. Chea Sim would not have formal negotiations but exchange views with Japanese officials on bilateral relations, aid and the Cambodian peace process which has recently gained ground.

(Mr. Hor Namhong said he had heard "the Japanese side was preparing to have high level meetings" with Mr. Chea Sim, one of the most powerful figures in the Phnom Penh government.

(The Foreign Minister did not name any Japanese officials whom the parliament chief might meet.)

Hor Namhong Tells Japanese of Beijing Meet

BK1107120691 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1106 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK July 11th—Foreign Minister Hor Namhong said here Monday that the meeting of the Supreme National Council (SNC) in Phatthaya, Thailand, brought a breakthrough to the deadlock of a solution to the Cambodian conflict.

In an interview with the Japanese television NHK and the Japanese press agency KYODO, Mr. Hor Namhong described the achievements of the SNC meeting in Phatthaya as an "important" step towards putting an end to the civil war in Cambodia.

Apart from these achievements, he said, the meeting also helped create an atmosphere of mutual confidence which would open the way for solving the remaining issues in the future.

Asked why the Khmer Rouge were more flexible than ever before, Mr. Hor Namhong cited two points which induced the Khmer Rouge to change their position: The Khmer Rouge have come to realize their inability to take over the State of Cambodia by military means, and the common trend in the present world towards detente in international relations and peaceful solution to all conflicts.

On what contribution China made to changing the Khmer Rouge's stand, the Cambodian diplomat said he did not know what China had done but he noted that during the Chinese president's visit to Indonesia after the SNC meeting in Phatthaya, China said all Khmer sides had better things to do than fighting. China's remarks came after the Khmer Rouge rejected the extention of the voluntary cease- fire. China also expressed welcome to the achievements of the SNC meeting in Phatthaya.

Asked whether he thought a number of Western countries would follow the moves taken by Australia and Canada in proposing to accredit their ambassadors to the SNC, the chief of the Cambodian diplomacy said the first countries which would establish their diplomatic missions to the SNC would be the countries urged by the Khmer Rouge to accredit their missions to the SNC in Phnom Penh. At least there would be Australia, Canada, Japan, France, Indonesia and Thailand and their embassies would be located in Phnom Penh, the capital, which is under the control of the State of Cambodia, he said.

On the Sino-Vietnamese relations he said that the State of Cambodia applauded the approach of the Soviet Union to restore its relations with China, and it also welcomed the goodwill of Vietnam to improve the Sino-Vietnamese relations.

He said that if the three countries held similar points of views, then they would smooth the search for a political solution to the Cambodian conflict, or at least would help to settle the international aspect of the problem.

On the question of whether the coming Beijing meeting would focus on amendments to the P-5 [UNSC five permanent members] blueprint, Mr. Hor Namhong said that he didn't rule out this possibility, but added that he had not received any information about the concerned agenda. He further said the Phnom Penh government and the other side could discuss the agenda if the other side requested.

However, he said, not all amendments could be achieved in Beijing. He went on to say that at the Beijing meeting the two sides would exchange their viewpoints on many subjects, but they could not solve all major issues.

According to him, the major issues are how to make the SNC, the 'Perm Five' and the cochairs of the PICC [Paris International Conference on Cambodia] recognize the sovereignty of Cambodia with the SNC as representative, and acknowledge all documents which had been agreed upon by the SNC.

Asked if Japan could make any contribution to the peace-keeping mission, the minister said that if there was a final solution to the Cambodian problem in the framework of the P-5 peace plan, there would be no peacekeeping force in Cambodia, but only a military mission of the United Nations. He said that the composition of this military mission must be impartial and neutral. The composition of the mission must be defined by the United Nations and discussed and agreed to by the Cambodian groups, said he, adding that apart from a military role it could play, Japan could also make important contribution to a programme of rehabilitation aid.

Hor Namhong Says Sihanouk Hanoi Visit Possible

BK1207095991 Hong Kong AFP in English 0940 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, July 12 (AFP)—Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk could visit Hanoi after this month despite an official denial, a top official has said here.

"The question is not settled yet," Phnom Penh Foreign Minister Hor Namhong said Thursday.

The former monarch suggested to Premier Hun Sen during peace talks last month in Thailand that he could accompany him to Hanoi later this month after the Phnom Penh leader visits Pyongyang, Mr. Hor Namhong said, stressing that the prince was speaking privately and unofficially.

Mr. Hun Sen is to visit the North Korean capital July 20-22 as a guest of Prince Sihanouk following informal talks between the Cambodian factions in Beijing.

He will eventually return here through Hanoi, the main backer of the Phnom Penh Government.

Separately, Mr. Hor Namhong said he could envision the future of Cambodia settled by a pact between Mr. Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk.

"Phnom Penh is a strong party in this conflict" while the heads of the two non-communist factions must follow Prince Sihanouk, he said, leaving only the Khmer Rouge as an obstacle.

Prince Sihanouk could not follow the Khmer Rouge indefinitely if they continued to obstruct the peace process, he said, noting that Phnom Penh and the prince's followers could muster 10 votes on the Supreme National Council (SNC) against two for the Khmer Rouge.

But he added that Phnom Penh sought consensus among SNC members, which will be headquartered here and represent Cambodian sovereignty abroad.

Foreign Minister: Pailin Posts Retaken

BK1207101091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0954 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, July 12 (AFP)—The Phnom Penh government, which has recaptured three posts taken by the Khmer Rouge, wants to settle future charges of ceasefire violations peacefully, a senior official said.

Foreign Minister Hor Namhong said Thursday that Phnom Penh troops had recaptured the three posts in western Cambodia's Pailin area soon after they were taken July 1 by the Marxist Khmer Rouge.

He charged earlier this month that the guerrilla faction had used tanks and artillery in the gravest violation of a permanent ceasefire, agreed on late last month by Phnom Penh and the three resistance parties.

The army began a counterattack the same day the posts fell and retook all three, he said.

To avoid similar incidents in the future, "We, if violations happen, will send a fax to Prince Sihanouk and the Democratic Kampuchea party (Khmer Rouge) to inform them and try to solve these violations peacefully," Mr. Hor Namhong added.

The Khmer Rouge has rejected the charges while the two non-communist guerrilla factions have urged the two sides to stop trading accusations of ceasefire violations, saying this was "outdated."

Aid workers in the west of the country say the situation has been very calm in the last two months with hardly any war wounded cases.

In February, March and April hospital wards were flooded by war wounded, they said.

Hun Sen, Architect Discuss Monuments, Aid

BK1107122391 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1115 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 11 Jul (SPK)—Hun Sen, member of the Political Bureau of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of Cambodia's Council of Ministers, received in Phnom Penh Wednesday, 10 July, Van Molivan, famous Cambodian architect and adviser to UNESCO, now on a visit to Cambodia.

Chairman Hun Sen welcomed the architect whose mission is to study historical monuments, national patrimonies, and restoration of the Angkor Wat temples.

After highly appreciating the architect's previous works in Cambodia, Chairman Hun Sen expressed his pleasure at the architect's new efforts to contribute to the study and restoration of the country's patrimonies.

Hun Sen appealed to other Cambodian architects and international organizations, particularly UNESCO, to actively participate in restoring historical monuments in order to attract tourists and contribute to economic development.

In his reply, Mr. Van Molivan said he was delighted with his mission in Cambodia and sincerely thanked the State of Cambodia government for the amenities he has been accorded.

He pledged to do his best for the restoration of ancient construction as well as the training of Cambodian engineers and architects. He also pledged to work to influence international organizations, including UNESCO, and to work to obtain aid for the study and restoration of monuments in Cambodia.

Son Sann on Japanese Role; Ranariddh on SNC

OW1107153891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1454 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Bangkok, July 11 KYODO—The head of the Cambodian resistance coalition, Son Sann, told a visiting group of Japanese politicians on Thursday he would welcome Japan's involvement in peacekeeping operations in the war-torn Southeast Asian nation.

Son Sann met for over two hours of discussions in a Bangkok hotel with a group led by Mutsuki Kato, chairman of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's Policy Affairs Research Council, and which includes policy directors from the Social Democratic Party, Komeito, and Democratic Socialist Party.

Son Sann heads the coalition of three resistance factions opposed to the central Phnom Penh Government.

He told the Japanese delegation he would welcome Japanese involvement in proposed United Nations peacekeeping operations.

Son Sann said he would welcome members of the Japanese police force as well as Japanese Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel in peacekeeping operations provided it is constitutional.

He also requested Japanese assistance in training Cambodians and emergency supplies of rice.

The Japanese delegation also met Cambodian Prince Norodom Ranariddh, son of resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

Ranariddh told the delegation China has decided to invite Hun Sen, prime minister of the Heng Samrin government in Phnom Penh, to visit as official head of the newly formed Supreme National Council (SNC), a body for national reconciliation that includes all four warring Cambodian factions.

China has been the main supporter of the Khmer Rouge, one of the three resistance groups fighting the Phnom Penh government and the invitation represents a change of policy by China.

Ranariddh said that Hun Sen will visit the North Korean capital Pyongyang with Prince Sihanouk after attending a July 16-17 SNC meeting.

He told the Japanese delegation he had heard that Hun Sen will pay a further, unofficial visit to Beijing several days after the Pyongyang visit.

Ranariddh said he would welcome Japanese civilian or noncivilian involvement in U.N.-sponsored peacekeeping activities.

Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun also told the Japanese, during a one-hour courtesy visit to the prime minister's official residence, that Thailand hopes Japan will play a political role for peace in Cambodia.

VONADK: Fresh Troops Sent to Battambang

BK1207033291 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] On 5 July, the Vietnamese aggressors in the 5th Military Region transported 400 Cambodian soldiers, newly drafted from Moung Russei District in Battambang Province, to the Pailin-Route 10 battlefield to continue launching attacks against the Cambodian national resistance forces there.

On their way to the battlefield, some of these new Cambodian recruits deserted the Vietnamese aggressors, attempting to return home. This is another dispatch of fresh troops to the Pailin-Route 10 battlefield following the dispatch of 30 tanks by the Vietnamese aggressors on 28 June.

Indonesia

Intelligence Chief Views Security Situation

BK1107144591 Jakarta SUARA PEMBARUAN in Indonesian 27 Jun 91 p 1

[Text] Jakarta, 27 June—Sudibyo, chief of BAKIN [State Intelligence Agency] says the end of the cold war between the Western and Eastern blocs will give more opportunities for Indonesia to continue its development programs. However, against the background of declining international tension, we are still reminded to be vigilant against existing problems.

Sudibyo made the observation during a parliamentary hearing with Parliament's Commission I chaired by Commission Chairman Imron Rosyadi in Jakarta on Thursday.

Sudibyo said the Gulf war was an example of the cold war residue that we did not fully anticipate. However, regional conflicts which tend to break out these days will not escalate because external interference is likely to diminish.

But this will also lead Asia- Pacific countries to believe that regional conflicts will not end by themselves without external interference. These countries believe they need a certain concept to safeguard the stability of every region.

BAKIN believes the world will still face problems despite efforts to find a comprehensive end to the cold war between the Western and Eastern blocs. The success of such efforts will depend on the attitude adopted by the two blocs.

The Soviet Union is expected to continue maintaining its military integrity and credibility and the U.S. will not overlook this. The Soviet Union's suspicion over inaccurate figures submitted by the U.S. side during the European talks will also reinforce its decision to keep its military intact.

Strethened by its own position, the United States apparently wants to impose its concepts on solving existing global problems without paying attention to the Soviet Union, which still plays an important military role.

Despite the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact, the Western bloc cannot automatically be expected to dismantle NATO even though West European countries seem to think the existence of NATO will only benefit the U.S.

Sudibyo said NATO will continue to be used to monitor the Soviet Union's powerful military as well as the U.S. presence in Western Europe.

He added that the end of the Gulf war does not mean that there will not be any more regional conflicts. The end of the Gulf war has indeed prevented a direct conflict between the Soviet Union and the U.S., even though the Soviet Union continues to have major interests in the Gulf region. Sudibyo described as encouraging the fact that the Gulf war did not develop into a major war as the two superpowers had for the first time jointly supported the UN resolution to oppose Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

As for the Arab-Israeli conflict, the U.S. has shown an encouraging attitude by supporting a UN resolution calling for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Arab territories while the Soviet Union is also willing to co-sponsor the convening of a regional meeting to discuss the conflict.

In another part of his hearing, Sudibyo also discussed several potential problems, including the fact that the UN Resolution No.285 (1971) calling for the creation of a nuclear-free zone has not been ratified by several countries that intends to deploy their nuclear facilities in that region.

The issue of the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea is expected to be long and drawn-out with more claims to be expected from countries involved in the issue. The outcome will depend on the military might of the individual country to support its claim.

As for ASEAN, it is hoped that the regional grouping's cooperation will further create stability among its member countries. South Asian countries are also expected to become ASEAN's important partners in development programs.

Editorial on Presence of U.S. Film Association

BK0907142391 Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English 1 Jul 91 p 2

[Editorial: "Striving to become master at home"]

[Text] Members of the Indonesian motion picture community have two complaints, the alleged current monopoly in distribution of films and the powerful presence of American movies at the nation's cinemas. They were finally delivered in person to the House of Representatives here last week by a delegation of several hundred Indonesian movie workers, comprising producers, actors, actresses, script writers, production crews, etc.

But are these complaints valid? Some would simply point out that despite various efforts to respond to the issue made by successive information ministers under whom the film industry is managed, Indonesian films have yet to succeed in becoming, to use an expression often used in relation to the industry, master in its own house.

The controversy popped up again since February this year after American and Indonesian negotiators conducted talks on bilateral trade and in the process the Motion Picture Exporters Association of America (MPEAA), waving in this case the American flag of free trade, was showed the way through the crumbling walls of protectionism in the national movie business. The final outcome was the signing of a purely private-to-private trade deal between an American firm seeking to market its films and its Indonesian counterpart which will distribute them here.

The stake, according to MPEAA's new local partner, is not the small domestic film trade but several billion dollars worth of Indonesian exports of various commodities to America, such as plywood, garments, etc., which face certain retaliation if the deal failed to go through. To put it metaphorically, on this issue we see the free trade flag flying from the tip of the sword of Damocles.

Under the circumstances the complaint concerning the unequal competition between national and American movies becomes virtually meaningless. Besides, it would be unrealistic to expect our small film production units to challenge their dominant American counterparts. What can be done is allow a natural selection process at the macro level paralleled by a more coordinated consolidation programme within each enterprise that possesses the necessary means to stay on. At least one well-known local film producer has in fact quit the industry altogether after realizing that he could not survive in the business.

Charges of monopoly in the distributuion and showing of films have been repeatedly denied, especially when such allegations are aimed at the fact of ownership of 300 first-class cinemas by one big company within a relatively few years out of over 3,000 of various categories around the country. The time for strong concern will come if the trend is toward more and more movie houses being taken over by a single company or most went bankrupt.

Indonesian films, with a few exceptions, are generally of poor quality anyway, which to be fair must disqualify them from any justifiable claim to control the movie houses. From a market- economy perspective, to survive in the world of business the standard of good film-making must primarily be linked to box-office success at home or, why not, abroad.

Even the Goliaths of the American communications industry will all rapidly collapse if they ignore this maxim.

Laos

Ministry Welcomes Cambodian SNC Agreements

BK1207025391 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 12 Jul 91

["Statement" issued by Lao Foreign Affairs Ministry on 11 July on Cambodia]

[Text] On 11 July 1991, the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] issued a statement on the agreements reached at the Phatthaya meeting in Thailand on Cambodia issue. The statement reads as follows:

The war in Cambodia has been long protracted. Efforts have been made to seek means to politically settle it and acceptable agreements on comprehensive settlement of the problem have been reached. Following the efforts and agreements, the Supreme National Council [SNC] members finally decided to hold a meeting in Phatthaya, Thailand, from 24 to 26 June 1991. In the final statement issued following the meeting, the SNC noted the unlimited implementation of the cease-fire. The SNC members have also given a promise to each other to stop accepting military assistance from foreign countries, beginning 24 June 1991. They have also agreed to discuss forms of UN control and supervision in the next meeting of the SNC.

Later, on 27 June 1991, Prince Norodom Sihanouk called on governments of various countries and on those who have supplied weapons and other military equipment to the various Cambodian factions as well as those who have allowed the Cambodian factions to transport those weapons and military equipment through their territory to put an end to their acts. On 29 June 1991, Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the State of Cambodia, sent a message to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, reiterating the full support of the State of Cambodia for the said appeal of Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

The LPDR Government fully supports all proposals as stipulated in the final statement of the SNC and the appeal of 27 June 1991 of Prince Norodom Sihanouk as well as the message of 29 June 1991 from Chairman Hun Sen to Prince Norodom Sihanouk. The LPDR Government pledges not to render military assistance to any Cambodian faction. It will also not allow any country to transport weapons or other military equipment to Cambodia through its territory as already announced earlier on this issue in its statement voicing full support for the Vietnamese Government's proposal which says various countries bordering Cambodia should together take concrete actions in order to achieve that objective.

For its part, the LPDR is ready to accept effective forms of control of the United Nations in the fulfillment of all the aforesaid obligations. The LPDR Government maintains that success of the SNC meeting in Phatthaya 24-26 June is a process of the comprehensive settlement of the Cambodian problem through political means. The LPDR Government welcomes all agreements reached at Phatthaya and once again confirms its respect for all agreements of the SNC on the sovereignty of Cambodia. The LPDR once again announces here that it will do everything possible to contribute to the comprehensive settlement of the Cambodian problem through political means on the basis of the respect for the Cambodian sovereignty and the UN Charters for the benefits of the Cambodian people and in the interest of peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

Pact Signed With Germany on Debt Liquidation

BK1107145391 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] On the afternoon of 10 July at the Foreign Ministry, a ceremony was held to sign an agreement on financial cooperation between the representative of the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], Souban Salitthilat, deputy minister for foreign affairs, and the representative of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany [as heard], Mr. Claus Soenksen, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Germany to Laos.

Since 1966 the Lao Water Works, the Lao Electricity Enterprise, and the National Bank of Laos have acquired loans from the Institute of Credit for Reconstruction of the Federal Republic of Germany. As of now, the total debts—both loans and interest—have accumulated to 49,942,000 Deutsche marks. These debts will be liquidated and changed into the local currency to be given to the LPDR Government for use in protecting the environment and natural resources in Laos in the future.

Philippines

U.S. Communicates Desire To Depart From Clark

HK1207024191 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 12 Jul 91 pp 1, 6

[By Anthony L. Cuaycong and Jose G. Ebro]

[Excerpts] The United States has communicated to the Philippines its desire to permanently pull out from Clark Air Base before September 16, 1991 in light of the damage caused by Mt. Pinatubo's eruptions to the installation, Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus yesterday disclosed.

Emerging from the Palace Guest House after briefing members of the Senate on the status of the bases negotiations, Mr. Manglapus told newsmen, "We understand they (the U.S.) are considering" the option of turning over full control of the facility to the Philippines.

While noting that the Philippines "wanted Clark from the very beginning, we wanted Clark in the physical condition it was before" the eruptions, Mr. Manglapus stressed.

To this end, Mr. Manglapus will be meeting with U.S. Special Negotiator Richard Armitage on Monday to demand that the United States either foot the bill on repair operations in Clark or undertake these itself should the Americans finally decide to give up the installation.

Despite the probability of having only the lease on Subic Naval Base to be retained, Mr. Manglapus argued that the Philippines will stick to its compensation demand of $825 million per annum.

"We have no plans of changing the compensation package," Mr. Manglapus said, pointing out that the country's need for resources to find rehabilitation work in Pinatubo-affected areas, including Clark, could be used as leverage to even increase the compensation mix.

Still, Mr. Manglapus conceded that the Philippines may accede to a longer duration period which was originally pegged to last until 1998, at which time the country can unilaterally extend the lease by up to three years.

While "there's no agreement at the moment" on an automatic 10-year phaseout, Mr. Manglapus said the option "is part of the consideration that is now in the equation."

In this connection, Mrs. Aquino pressed the solons for the immediate passage of a measure instituting the Bases Conversion Authority to prepare for the takeover of Clark.

Commenting on the matter, Senate President Jovito Salonga noted that such a takeover "is a probability...I don't consider this an unwelcome development. I suppose our minds are ready for that kind of thinking."

"It's good for us, why not?" echoed Sen. Aquilino Pimentel, although stressing the need for the U.S. to turn over Clark in its pre-Pinatubo condition.

"That would be a very good proposition...I am even suggesting that if there should be an agreement at all, then compensation should be made up front in the light of the Pinatubo disaster," Mr. Pimentel said. "If the agreement is over three years, then the payment for those three years should be paid immediately upon signing."

For his part, Sen. Rene Saguisag underscored the illogic of keeping U.S. facilities in the country. "We have been waving the flag of friendship in relation to all countries...para que pa itong base na ito, wala naman tayong kaaway?" [For what use are the bases, we don't have enemies anyway?]

Should the lease be extended, however, Mr. Saguisag maintained that "the uselessness of Clark is not an argument for lowering compensation. All these years, when the Philippines was fixing a low compensation figure, it was factoring in the fact that, at the end of the day, it would have a useful Clark."

10 Years?

With Clark Air Base unable to operate as an air facility, the Philippines may offer as much as a 10-year tenure in an effort to persuade the United States not to cut compensation drastically, a source close to the negotiating panel disclosed.

A report from the Pentagon the other day..that the U.S. would not stay on at Clark—confirmed the panel's worst fears. [passage omitted]

"In an effort to protect the compensation package as much as possible, we're ready to give in to the 10 years the U.S. is asking for," the government source said.

U.S. Commander-in-Chief of Pacific Forces Adm. Charles Larson will be visiting Subic over the weekend. Mr. Armitage was supposed to arrive on July 14, Sunday, and inspect the facilities prior to the next round of talks but a ranking U.S. Embassy official said the lead U.S. negotiator will be arriving the following day instead and "the talks will begin immediately."

The talks are expected to conclude on July 19. Mr. Platt is scheduled to depart on July 20.

Manglapus Reiterates Stand on Bases Compensation

HK1207065691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0628 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Manila, July 12 (AFP)—The Philippines is maintaining its demand of 825 million dollars for a seven-year new U.S. lease on major bases even if one of the facilities may be abandoned, Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said Friday.

Mr. Manglapus, head of the Philippine panel in bases talks set to resume next week amid the possibility of a U.S. pullout from Clark Air Base, said in a press conference that "as of now, our position has not changed."

He said the talks were not a "real estate transaction," but rather an arrangement under which the United States would be allowed to maintain its military presence in exchange for assisting Philippine economic development.

"The principles involved here are that the Philippines is ready to afford the U.S. the opportunity for some more time to maintain their facilities to give them time to adjust to the new international realities and to discharge their perceived responsibilities as a world power," Mr. Manglapus said.

"The U.S. in reciprocation would be prepared to asssist the Philippines in meeting our economic needs. These economic needs, far from diminishing, have multiplied with these events," he pointed out.

Clark and Subic Naval Base, the largest U.S. bases overseas, whose leases run out in September, were devastated by the month-old eruption of Mount Pinatubo. Clark suffered heavier damage, and continuing ash emissions are expected to prevent normal air travel for months.

Washington had offered 360 million dollars annually for a ten-year extension of the lease on both bases when the talks adjourned here in May, but Manila had stuck to its offer of a seven-year treaty for 825 million dollars annually in compensation.

Mr. Manglapus said that Richard Armitage, U.S. special negotiator in the talks who is scheduled to arrive here over the weekend, did not give "categorical advice" that Washington was giving up Clark.

Mr. Armitage, however, said in a letter he sent last week that Washington may propose an arrangement that would exclude Clark from the talks based on an objective assessment on the damage to the base, Mr. Manglapus said.

"The United States has not given us categorical advice but there is that possibility that they would propose an arrangement where Clark would no longer be included," he said.

U.S. press reports said that Pentagon and U.S. Air Force officials had earlier recommended that the U.S. quit Clark since it would cost 500 million dollars to rehabilitate the facility and only 100 million dollars to relocate personnel and equipment from there.

(In Washington Thursday a senior U.S. official strongly implied that the cost of cleaning up Clark could prompt Washington to shut down the base.

(Representative Patricia Schroeder, chairman of the House military installations subcommittee, also called for closing both U.S. bases, and said she would block payment for their repair.)

Mr. Manglapus said that any U.S. proposal for a longer duration period or lower compensation for the bases in the light of the volcanic eruption "would have to be weighed by the (Philippine) panel in the light of all the factors and conditions surrounding the situation."

He downplayed the damage to Clark, saying that the Philippine defense department believes it could be rehabilitated in six months, but conceded that its utility could not be determined until the volcano stops erupting.

He described the damage as "extensive, but not total."

Mr. Manglapus stressed that the Philippine panel wanted Clark back earlier in the talks but in its "original condition."

While conceding that the volcanic eruption had complicated the bases talks, Mr. Manglapus expressed hope that a treaty could be finalized in this eighth round of negotiations set to begin Monday since the expiration of the base leases is in two months.

"There are obvious pressures upon us. One of them is the time element that should dictate that we make extra effort to make it a final one," he said.

Reaction to Fishing Accord With Taiwan Reported

Aquino Views Pact, China Policy

HK1207121791 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0900 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Report by field reporters Dick Synchongco of DZRH Unit No. 6 and Rey Arquiza of DZRH Unit No. 21—italicized portions in English]

[Text] President Aquino assured that the agreement being outlined between the Philippines and Taiwan will not violate the one-China policy. The president said that cabinet Cluster E on security and political development is still studying the fishery agreement.

This assurance was given by the president in the midst of China's irritation over the use of the term Republic of China in reference to Taiwan. The president believes that any economic agreement with Taiwan is not contradictory to the Philippine's one-China policy.

The president also stressed that she is still awaiting the advice of cabinet Cluster E before implementing any decision. The said agreement between Taiwan and the Philippines will give Taiwanese fishing boats so-called sea lanes inside the territory of the Philippines from which the Taiwanese could also fish.

Meanwhile Foreign Affairs Secretary Manglapus announced today that the government will still review the fishery cooperation agreement which was recently signed by the Philippines and Taiwan, in order to ensure that there will be no violation of the former's one-China policy.

According to Manglapus, cabinet Cluster E on national security will look closely into the said agreement in relation to the impending protest by the PRC.

Manglapus said that there is a possibility that the Philippine delegation sent to Taipei had no authority to sign an agreement.

I don't think that these people were given full powers and that their authority might have been exceeded, Manglapus added.

Manglapus reiterated that the Department of Foreign Affairs maintains the one-China policy and is not doing anything in violation of the said policy. *We're not engaged in any activity that would recognize the Government of Taiwan as a Government of China*, Manglapus stated.

The PRC Embassy expressed its opposition to the said agreement because it is a violation of the one-China policy. Embassy spokesman Gao Baocheng stated that they will protest the minute they obtain a copy of the said agreement.

According to the agreement, the Philippines will allow Taiwan fishing vessels to enter the territorial waters of the Philippines when going to the South China Sea, in exchange for Taiwan's pledge to give five fishing vessels to the Philippines and to help in the construction of ports in Bari and Batanes.

Diplomatic observers feel that the said fishery agreement will cause embarrassment to the Philippine Government because it is a direct violation of the one-China policy.

Official Downplays Controversy

HK1207033491 Quezon City MALAYA in English 12 Jul 91 pp 1, 2

[By Desiree Carlos, Chit Estella, and Didi Doloricon]

[Text] Beijing expressed yesterday displeasure over the decision of the Philippine government to sign a fishing agreement with Taiwan and called on Manila to "stop activities of official nature" with Taipei.

A spokesman of China's foreign ministry, in a press conference in Beijing, said: "The Chinese government is firmly opposed to any official exchanges between the countries that have diplomatic ties with China and Taiwan or to the signing of any treaty or agreement of official nature between them."

The spokesman said China considers the agreement signed by the Philippines and Taiwan as "illegal, null and void" as he reiterated that Taiwan is simply a province although "an inalienable part of the territory of the People's Republic of China." [PROC]

The Philippines maintains a one-China policy which considers Taiwan only as a province of PROC.

"We hope that the Philippine government will, proceeding from the larger interest of safeguarding the China-Philippines friendship, take resolute measures to stop forthwith its activities of official nature with Taiwan," the spokesman said.

Taipei said, however, that with the signing of the agreement, it expects to discuss with the Philippines the possibility of signing a labor accord to legalize Filipino workers in Taiwan.

William Lee, director of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Manila, said the Philippines' decision to enter into an agreement with Taiwan despite opposition from the People's Republic of China has made Taipei seriously consider forging a labor agreement with Manila.

There are at present about 50,000 Filipino workers in Taiwan, most of them illegally staying.

A Malacanang official confirmed that the Philippine delegation to Taipei led by Assistant Executive Secretary Roberto Lucila signed last week an economic agreement with Taiwan.

Under the agreement, which would be effective after 30 days, the Philippines granted access to sealanes to Taiwan in exchange for fishing boats and fishing technology.

Although a copy of the agreement has been submitted to the Palace, its release was withheld pending a review by the Cabinet cluster on political affairs and security whose chairman, Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon, earlier expressed doubts that an agreement could be signed with Taiwan.

The Palace official said the agreement refers to Taiwan as "Republic China."

When asked if this would not provoke opposition from the PROC which has warned against the mere holding of talks with Taiwanese officials, the Palace official said it is the Philippines which has the right to decide on how to implement its one-China policy.

The official downplayed the controversy attending the signing of the agreement, saying it was not the first time the Philippines was doing this. Earlier agreements include those on postal service and landing rights.

An official of the justice department official said the Cabinet cluster will question Lucila and other members of the Philippine delegation why they disregarded instructions of the Cabinet on the matter.

The official said the Philippine delegation was advised before it left for Taipei that the grant of free passage to fishing vessels of any foreign country—be it Taiwan or any other country—will be an "act of unilateral declaration on the part of the Philippine government."

The official said the Cabinet cluster never gave the Philippine delegation the go-signal to enter into an agreement with Taiwan.

He said the Philippine delegation was even told to keep in mind the government's one-China policy during talks held last week in Taiwan.

"They left (for Taiwan) with certain guidelines set by the Cluster E. The Cluster E was surprised to find out that they signed an agreement," the official said.

Drilon earlier said a unilateral declaration on the part of the Philippines would not have been a violation of the one-China policy since sealanes would be opened not only to Taiwan but to other countries as well.

Drilon said entering into a treaty with Taiwan would be improper since "we do not look at Taiwan as a sovereign country. It is the People's Republic of China which is sovereign. That's why we have the one-China policy."

Manila To Review Fishery Accord

OW1207085691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0751 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Manila, July 12 KYODO—The Philippine Government will review a fishery agreement signed between Filipino and Taiwanese officials in Taipei as it reiterated its adherence to a one-China policy, Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus said Friday.

"We are going to look over the paper that was signed," Manglapus told a news conference.

He said the Foreign Office "takes the position that it has taken in the past (that) we are not to engage in any activity that would recognize the Government of Taiwan as the Government of China."

On Sunday, a Philippine mission forged with their Taiwanese counterparts a pact that reportedly provides for allocation of sea lanes for Taiwanese fishing boats near the Spratly Islands, a group of islands contested by six countries including the Philippines, in exchange for support in modernizing Manila's port facilities and a donation of five boats.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry criticized the agreement Thursday and expressed the hope that Manila will proceed in "the larger interest of safeguarding the China-Philippine friendship, take resolute measures to stop forthwith its activities of an official nature with Taiwan."

Repeated official contacts between Philippine and Taiwanese officials have somewhat soured relations between Manila and Beijing, beginning in June 1975 when it cut off ties with Taipei.

Sen. Leticia Shahani told reporters that while Manila's long-term interests will be served by maintaining ties with Beijing, Philippines officials should not be "so scared" in dealing with Taipei, which hosts 50,000 Filipino overseas workers.

Editorial Questions Secrecy

HK1207044491 Quezon City MALAYA in English 12 Jul 91 p 4

[Editorial: "A 'Fishy' Agreement"]

[Text] Most people know by now that confusion is the Aquino government's middle name, but now it is threatening to climb even loftier heights in this department with the way it is handling the so-called fishing agreement with Taiwan.

No one seems to know what has happened, and what is going on—except in Malacanang, and Malacanang isn't talking. Was an agreement actually signed in Taipei, as the Taiwanese government has announced? Is the agreement, if one exists, final, or has it to be approved by President Aquino? Will she submit it for review to the Department of Foreign Affairs, or the so-called Cluster E Cabinet Committee headed by Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon? Will she take unilateral action and approve it herself?

The most striking feature of this entire exercise is the shroud of utmost secrecy that has been thrown around it. It is, to quote an observation made about something else, a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma. The question is: Why? Why the extreme measures to keep the negotiations and the results top-secret and hush-hush?

Is there anything sinister going on? Dirty tricks that cannot be exposed to the light of day? Illicit motives and objectives that must be permanently concealed? Immoral and illegal considerations that cannot be subjected to public scrutiny?

The Taiwanese government has announced that an agreement has indeed been reached and signed, between the head of the Philippine panel that travelled to Taipei for the negotiations, Presidential Assistant Roberto Rafael Lucila, and a Taiwanese official, Tiju Mauying, vice-chairman of the Council of Agriculture. It assigns two sea lanes for Taiwanese boats to fish in near the Kalayaan chain, a group of islands claimed by six countries including the Philippines. In exchange, Taiwan will help modernize port facilities in Aparri, Cagayan, donate five fishing boats to the Philippines and send a relief team to help victims of the Pinatubo eruptions.

Secretary Drilon has said that if such an agreement has been concluded then it clearly violates the Philippines' longstanding one-China policy, under which it recognizes only the People's Republic of China and Taiwan as a mere province thereof. Foreign Affairs officials emphatically share this view, although none has been brave enough to allow his name to be printed. And the argument seems to be irrefutable. An official agreement concluded with Taiwan would be a definitive recognition of its status as a sovereign state, and this would pierce the very heart of the relationship between the Philippines and Beijing.

In fact, the mere sending of a mission to Taipei to negotiate on fishing rights has already drawn a protest from China. Malacanang took elaborate pains to explain—and got itself entangled in impossible contradictions—that the officials going there were going as private citizens. But obviously this was not good enough with Taiwan; it wanted an official agreement. It seemed to have received iron-clad assurances from powerful forces within the Aquino government that it would get its way, and so it pressed for nothing less. If an agreement has indeed resulted, obviously it was right and knew what it was doing every inch of the way.

The Aquino government's headstrong and seemingly unstoppable plunge towards forging an official fishing agreement with Taiwan is, to say the least, provocative, reckless and dangerous. It would surely upset our relations with China, with possible consequences that no one can predict or even begin to calculate. But the most puzzling and inexplicahble aspect is why Malacanang is so eager to conclude a written, official agreement. Wouldn't a verbal understanding be just as good? And even China couldn't object to something there is no proof of.

Has an irresistible prize been dangled by Taiwan, and for whom, in exchange for recognition of its sovereign nationhood by the Philippines? Is Kamag-anak, Inc. in the thick of these murky, blacked-out maneuvers? And it's a certainty that worse questions and worse hypotheses will be raised unless and until Malacanang comes clean and tells the people what the mystery and secrecy is all about.

Whatever happened to good old transparency?

Ramos Discusses Resignation, Brunei Trip, Plans

HK1207074291 Quezon City DWDD Defense Department Radio in Tagalog 0421 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Impromptu "statement" by Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos followed by a news conference with local reporters held at Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City; Mr. Joe Capadocia, president of the National Defense Press Corps, moderates—live in English; italicized portions in Tagalog]

[Text] [Capadocia] *Good afternoon Secretary Ramos.*

[Ramos] *Good afternoon to all.*

[Capadocia] *Your friends from the media are here. We would also like to welcome the new reporters covering the defense news conference, like Victoria Batacan from Channel 13, Vicky.* We would like to welcome Mr. Ben Rosario of the MANILA BULLETIN, who will take over from Wilma Yamzon who has gone abroad. We would like to welcome Mr. John Susi from DZBB, John. And we would like to welcome back Francis Flores who used to cover for DZMM now with Radio Veritas DZNN, Francis; and then some of our friends from the FOCAP, the Foreign Correspondents Association of the Philippines. Sir, would you like to give an open statement?

[Ramos] Yeah. I understand that you are here to find out who are donating the relief goods. [laughter] *Is that so?* Thank you, Joe, ladies and gentlemen of the Defense Press Corps, as well as the others who are here. I think I know what you are waiting for. But let us talk about this letter of resignation. I really do not know why there is so much excitement about this. But yesterday at the regional seminar in Region 1 of the DILG [Department of Interior and Local Government], which was discussing the subject of the implementation of Republic Act 6975 which is the law that created the Philippine National Police [PNP] and reorganized all department of local government in which I was a resource speaker. [sentence as heard] And I talked about the transition period where the DND [Department of National Defense] and the DILG, the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] and the PNP share common responsibilities. First in regard to operations and the counterinsurgency, internal security program, and the other in regard to the administration of the PNP, which was created out of the old PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police]. Now we had an open forum, mainly on that subject. One of the questions asked was: Mr. Secretary, have you submitted your letter of resignation to the president? And so, I merely confirmed my action which took place two days before. And I said, yes, I have submitted my letter of resignation. Now, let me explain. I do believe that my submitting my letter of resignation, which formalizes many discussions I had with the president on a one on one basis during the recent past, is the proper thing to do. It is a matter of delikadeza [propriety] that I must manifest to her my intentions and I think that my action not only in submitting that letter but also in confirming it when I was asked on the floor yesterday to manifest my sense of propriety. Now, I'm sorry that there are so many interpretations yesterday, this morning, and maybe even today after this press conference about that very simple action. *Others are even saying maybe Ramos is now tired.* I want you to know that I am not tired. I am full of energy and strength. I don't know whether other people can say the same thing. Okay. Just one point, we are not yet tired. We are here to serve the government and our people in whatever capacity up to the last ounce of strength that I have. And I think I have proven that over the last five or 10 years. Now, it is not also true that I am resigning under pressure or under duress. But this is a purely voluntary act on my part, precisely because it is the proper thing to do. Now, some have also been saying that it is connected with this and that. I want you to know very clearly that it first of all is not connected with the resignation of our former colleague in the Cabinet, my province-mate and good friend, Secretary Oscar Orbos. *There is no connection there.* Secondly, neither is it connected, as some people this morning were speculating, with Pangasinan politics. *This has no connection there either.* Why should I worry about that. I am confident in the support of my province-mates not only in regard to 1992 but that support has been there ever since after I assume a role of some national prominence in our government. I have always had that support. Others were also saying that Secretary Ramos is avoiding the strike. Why should that bother me and why should I try to evade any duty connected with helping to maintain peace and order, security and stability in our country. I've always jumped into the middle of any crises to do the little I can to stabilize the situation or to prevent the crisis from getting worse. So again, it is not connected with the strike or other related activity of the protesters. And neither is it connected with my wanting to be away from any forthcoming crisis. In whatever capacity, I'll be there to help those that are in charge of maintaining stability, security, peace and order in our country. Now, I want to make that very, very clear.

Now let us talk about what this is all about. My submitting that letter of resignation to the president is a demonstration of my sense of loyalty to President Aquino and her government and for everything that our new democracy stands for. Now in the future, and I have told this to the president, I shall be there available to help, especially in regard to the urgent task connected with the Mt. Pinatubo calamity. We have laid down the foundations for the effective rescue, recovery, and relief operations of the NDCC [National Disaster Coordinating Council] in the calamity areas.

I shall be very happy to help as the president may assign me in a private capacity to help continue in that effort as well as in any other crisis that will face the country. Now all of these, I would like to conclude with a declaration of continued support to President Cory Aquino and her government as well as our constitutional democracy which was established as our legacy of the People's Power revolution at EDSA [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue] in February 1986. I do not think that our people should allow EDSA to be relegated to the dustbin of history. The spirit of EDSA must be kept alive and that is precisely why I am aspiring for the presidency of our country so that we can not only keep the spirit of EDSA alive but also nurture it for our generation and for the generations of Filipinos that will come after us. Because after all, if we are now enjoying the fruits and benefits of our democracy in spite of the fact that we still have in our midst very deep problems that are awaiting resolutions. [sentence as heard] I am convinced that the future of our country which will uphold and insure a better life for all Filipinos rest upon that legacy of EDSA. And so, let me just say, therefore, that the letter of resignation which I have submitted to the president now awaits her action and her approval. So that is what I have done and that is the background of all of that. Okay.

[Capadocia] Thank you very much sir. I think there will be a lot of questions coming forth now. The first one would come from Charrie Villa, sir, Channel 2.

[Villa] Secretary Paredes said that in your letter of resignation, you've mentioned already your recommending to replace you. Sir, could you reveal to us who you are recommending for your post?

[Ramos] We will leave that for the president to announce in due time.

[Villa] Sir, may we know what you will be doing after the president has accepted your resignation?

[Ramos] I will continue in a new and unaccustomed role as a private citizen to help our people. *Is that not true, Joe?*

[Capadocia] John Susi.

[Susi] What do you consider as your major accomplishment for the past three years or more during your service as the secretary of national defense?

[Ramos] You know, I'd rather not talk about that. *You judge me.* Anyway, this is just one of our regular press conferences and I will be happy to elaborate on that later on when it's time to be talking about accomplishments.

[Susi] Follow up question, sir. What are your prognoses with regards to the country's peace and order condition, the chances of another coup? What is your view sir?

[Ramos] As we briefed the (?conferees) yesterday in La Union and many of you were there, all the parameters for improved peace and order, a more stable democracy are already established not only in Region 1, where we were yesterday, but also in all other regions of the country. And I think that this is one thing that everyone can be proud of who is in government, especially those that are under the umbrella of the peace and order councils. Of course, as I also indicated in that meeting, there is still a lot to be done and we must see this whole thing as a process that has been established through a total approach strategy where even the people, even the concerned citizenry, have an important role to play. And it is not purely a military action or solution that we are pursuing but the combination of political action, economic growth, and social reform, all protected by military and police capabilities. [Susi's question indistinct]

[Ramos] As I told you, I will continue helping our people.

[Capadocia] Thank you, sir. Mr. Zamora.

[Zamora] Sir, may we know if this is your last press con now?

[Ramos] No. Tomorrow, I am going to Brunei on the invitation of the sultan, Sultan Bolkiah, who is celebrating his 45th birthday, and as far as I am told, I am the only official of the Philippine Government that was invited. And other defense ministers in the ASEAN bloc have also been invited. So, this is an opportunity for me to review with my colleagues the security situation in our ASEAN area including Asia and the Pacific, and at the same time inform his majesty the sultan as well as his official, whom we shall meet, about the situation in the Philippines, especially the improvement in our situation but also I think I can tell them of the Mt. Pinatubo disaster.

[Zamora] Are you going to solicit some money...

[Ramos interrupts] No. As I said, the main mission is to accept that very unique invitation, which will put together defense ministers in our part of Southeast Asia and the president, of course, approved this. I will give you a copy of all of these so you will be specially clarified on what this is all about.

[Zamora] Sir, some months ago you said that you'll have very, very high chances of winning the LDP [Struggle of Philippine Democrats] convention on the presidential election. How would you rate your chances at this point in time?

[Ramos] Much better than Speaker Mitra. [laughter]

[Zamora] You've been seeking the nomination of the LDP and the support of President Aquino. How important are these to your candidacy. In case you don't get any of the LDP or President Aquino's support, are you still going to pursue your (?dream)?

[Ramos] I will answer your questions one at a time. My answer to the first question is, they are both very important. And the other, no further comment at this time.

[Zamora] What are the options?

[Ramos] No further comment.

[Capadocia] Thank you very much, sir. Mr. Fernan Imberga, DZRH.

[Imberga] Sir, on your resignation as defense secretary and now that the victims of the Mt. Pinatubo need help, and you are the chairman of the NDCC, will you also resign from this?

[Ramos] Yes. Because the chairmanship of the NDCC is by virtue of the position and that is given to the secretary of the national defense, including the acting secretary of national defense during my absence. And that is the situation that will prevail until I come back from this mission to Brunei.

[Capadocia] Questions? *It seems there are no more, sir. Would you like to give...*

[Ramos interrupts] *It seems you are the ones who are tired, not me.*

[Capadocia] Any closing remarks, sir?

[Ramos] *Well, you know, talking about EDSA, since we all took part in that and I think that all of us wished that the spirit of EDSA will remain and be strengthened.* And so, I consider that event so sacred that for all freedom-loving Filipinos, and I am sure that includes most of you and for all of you and most of our audience, that we must take a stand to keep it alive and to strengthen it. Because we owe that to the younger Filipinos. So, you can count on me to do my role even in a private capacity. To contribute to the strengthening of that spirit which is the foundation of our consititutional democracy.

[Capadocia] Sir, there is a follow-up from Vicky.

[Batacan] [question indistinct]

[Ramos] Well, in our informal review of our security situation in Asia and the Pacific, because this was not a formal conference, it is just a gathering of people on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the sultan. But you know, that is how diplomacy and regional coordination is carried out. More times than the formal ceremonial meetings. So, I'd be ready to discuss with them whatever subjects they bring up which is of common interest to us. All matters of mutual interest.

[Capadocia] Sir, definitely the last question, sir.

[Reporter] [question indistinct]

[Ramos] My presence or my absence?

[Reporter] Your absence. [passage indistinct]

[Ramos] No. I have said that the stability situation has improved considerably, very substantially since December 1989. Now, coups are caused or arise from the plans and intentions of rebels to seek the overthrow of our government, not because of the presence or absence of Secretary Ramos in the Defense Department. I think that is a very farfetched statement on your part that is already in the realm of fantasy. Because you only have to look at the records. You have only to look at the facts, you only have to see what is already established as part of our history and what does it say. That for my part, whether as chief of staff or as secretary of defense, I have led the defense department, including the Armed Forces, to confront these attempts and to defeat them and to preserve our democratic system. That's the record. No amount of speculation or statement whether we're [word indistinct] or not on the part of anybody will change that record. It is part of our history. And so, that is what I have offered to our people as a public servant. Okay, Joe. You give the last word. You act as president. [laughter] There will be a Cabinet meeting on the 17th, Wednesday. We'll still gather you to inform you about that.

[Capadocia] And probably the Defense Press Corps will know first if the president will announce your replacement.

[Ramos] Well, of course, the initiative or the decision to make the announcement rest entirely with the president or her spokesman. Okay. Thank you very much.

Filipino Party Plans To Field 1992 Candidates

HK1007061091 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY
in English 8 Jul 91 pp 1, 2

[By Teodoro C. Berbano, managing editor]

[Text] There is life after Danding Cojuangco.

This appears to be the battlecry of the Partido Pilipino [Filipino Party], which was supposed to be the businessman-industrialist's main vehicle en route to Malacanang in 1992.

The party, which led the Observance of "Araw ng Katipunan" [Day of the Filipino Rebels Association] with a rally at the Bonifacio monument in Kalookan City, is in fact having an ongoing expansion, especially among sectoral groups, prior to the fielding of some candidates in the 1992 elections—and a full ticket in the 1998 polls.

Antonio Gatmaitan, Partido secretary general, admitted that the party has lost its "immediate attraction" when Cojuangco joined the Nacionalista Party [NP] last week. But, Gatmaitan said, the party leaders believe "Partido will be a player in 1998."

Cojuangco, after a series of unification meetings with Nacionalista leaders, notably Vice President Salvador H. Laurel, NP president, and Senate Minority Floor Leader Juan Ponce Enrile, NP secretary general, has formally joined the main opposition party. The NP leadership, recognizing the impact of Cojuangco's move, also offered to the Tarlac industrialist membership in the party's executive committee, its policy-making body.

Cojuangco accepted the offer, saying he would abide with the wishes of party leaders. The NP rules committee, headed by former Senator Arturo Tolentino, is now finalizing Cojuangco's ascendance as a key NP official.

Cojuangco, Laurel, and Enrile, all presidential aspirants, have also agreed to field only one candidate in the 1992 political exercise, with all factions pledged to support whoever will be selected in a party convention in

November or December. This development in effect excludes the possibility of a candidate losing in the convention but going on to run for the presidency as the official bet of another party, or as a guest candidate of that party.

"We remain completely supportive of Danding, we wish him well," Gatmaitan said. But while the Partido has lost "a major recruiting reason," the party is still "going nationwide."

Gatmaitan also said the Commission on Elections has already accredited the Partido Pilipino as a national party, and it is now organizing in all 76 provinces.

Gatmaitan also explained that a national council—often called "Group of 9"—composed of senior officials runs the party, at least until the party holds its own convention "after the big boys shall have finished theirs" by year-end.

In the meantime, Jerry Barican is party president and spokesman.

Gatmaitan also said there are now some 5,000 sworn-in members, who will definitely go all the way for Cojuangco and who will support candidates in the 1992 polls who are "politically inclined but have not run for public office."

In yesterday's Araw ng Katipunan rites, Partido drew attention to the end to raise anew the three Ks. In this case, the Partido's battlecry is to call for heroism (kagitingan) and fraternity (kapatiran), just as it was sincerity or fidelity (katapatan) in Bonifacio's time.

Nobody can quarrel with that.

Official: Import Levy Reduction To Start in Aug

HK1107054691 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 11 Jul 91 pp 1, 6

[By Anthony L. Cuaycong]

[Text] The Executive department will implement the phasedown of the 9% across-the-board levy on importations at the same time the domestic prices of petroleum products are reduced, Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao yesterday disclosed.

Speaking to Palace newsmen before the scheduled National Economic and Development Authority Board meeting, Mr. Estanislao noted that the twin adjustments "will obviously have to go together."

Thus, the phasedown of the import levy will be effected between August 10 and 15, the time frame when domestic pump prices will be reduced, as announced by President Aquino the other day (see BUSINESS WORLD, July 10).

As enunciated by Mr. Estanislao, the eradication of a deficit in the Oil Price Stabilization Fund [OPSF]—placed as a prerequisite for lowering domestic oil prices—will enable the Executive to channel erstwhile OPSF remittances to the National Treasury in lieu of revenues an import surcharge reduction will forgo.

"It has always been very clear that the reduction of the import levy can be done if there will be a substitute source of revenues," Mr. Estanislao explained. "Since there will be no complete rollback (in domestic oil prices), then that differential can be used as a substitute source of revenues."

Meeting

Earlier in the day, Mrs. Aquino, Mr. Estanislao, Labor Secretary Ruben Torres, Presidential Adviser on Energy Affairs Wenceslao del la Paz, and Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III met with representatives of moderate labor federations to brief them on the Executive's initiatives on the twin matters.

After the meeting, Federation of Free Workers [FFW] spokesman Felicisimo Joson told Palace newsmen the labor sector was assured that the levy phasedown and the oil price reduction would be affected "at the same time."

Apparently appeased with the announcement, the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines [TUCP], the Lakas Manggagawa [Workers' Force] Labor Center and the FFW assured Mrs. Aquino of their non-participation in the strike being planned by militant labor groups for next week to push for an oil price rollback to pre- December 5, 1990 levels.

Vowing to use only "peaceful means" in seeking redress, the groups will instead submit their proposals before the Energy Regulatory Board, under whom the TUCP petition for an average P [Philippine peso] 1.50 per liter reduction in domestic prices is currently being considered.

Police Arrest Suspected Dynamite Supplier 9 Jul

HK1207015391 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Philippine National Police operatives have arrested a man suspected of supplying the dynamite used in a series of bank bombings in Baguio City. In a briefing in Camp Oscar Florendo this morning, the suspect was identified as Josie Carille. According to Naval District 1 Commander Bayani Matic, Carille was arrested at the St. Joseph bus terminal in San Fernando, La Union before midnight on Tuesday [9 July]. Confiscated from Carille were 1,007 sticks of dynamite and blasting caps. The authorities added that the suspect planned to sell the dynamite to farmers involved in illegal fishing.

Explosion Reportedly Rocks Electric Substation

HK1107044191 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 11 Jul 91 p 3

[By correspondent Madelynne Dominguez]

[Text] A powerful explosion rocked a substation of the National Power Corporation [NPC] in Paranaque early yesterday morning and damaged two of its tower posts, police authorities reported. The blast caused brownouts in several areas in Metro Manila.

The report, however, was denied by the NPC which said in a statement released to media that the "explosion" was merely lightning which struck the power plant.

Muntinlupa police superintendent Francisco Landrito said a concerned resident in the area reported the explosion to the police. No one was reported injured in the blast, which was believed to be the handiwork of anti-government elements. As of press time, authorities were still determining the type of explosive used.

Police Superintendent Francisco Landrite said a certain Irineo Ferrer, an NPC employe, reported that the transmission tower legs of the substation, located in Susana Heights, near the expressway, were partially damaged by the blast.

Bomb experts from Camp Crame immediately proceeded to the scene where they found fragments of electrical wire in the area.

Power in some parts of Muntinlupa was cut off due to the explosion because the transmission tower was partially damaged. Electricity, however, was restored in the afternoon.

Muntinlupa Mayor Ignacio Bunye ordered law enforcers to temporarily bloc the exit of the expressway while bomb experts were inspecting the area.

Bunye also ordered Muntinlupa policemen to be more visible in both government and private offices.

Meanwhile, the power firm reported that the Meralco franchise areas in Metro Manila and Luzon suffered two-hour rotating brownouts. Industries directly connected to the NPC experienced four-hour brownouts while those belonging to the Wednesday Group of the Voluntary Load Curtailment Program (VLCP) will have no power from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. today, the NPC said.

The firm also said that according to line crews who had immediately gone to work on the tripped lines, Sucat 4 was expected back on line by 5 p.m. today, and power supply may return to normal by tomorrow. The NPC explained that while the Sucat plant may already operate early tonight, it will take around eight hours before the plant reacquires its full capacity.

The NPC said it was lightning that struck the Sucat substation and felled the Sucat-Malibay and Sucat-Taguig transmission lines. This cut off the 300-megawatt Sucat 4 thermal plant from the Luzon said. [as published]

Following the Sucat incident, the NPC said, strong winds caused by tropical depression "Etang" cut the overhead ground wire of the NPC's Kalayaan-Gumaca transmission line in Quezon provinces and isolated the 250-megawatt Tiwi Geothermal Plants in Albay from the rest of the Luzon grid. Tiwi can only supply power to Daraga, Naga and Labo in the Bicol region.

Utility Spokeswoman's Clarification

HK1107053991 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0235 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Interview with National Power Corporation spokeswoman Pat Guttierez by reporter Jun Pineda—live, place not given]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Pineda] What really happened with the two transmission lines in Muntinlupa? There have been different stories about this. What really happened Pat?

[Begin Guttierez recording] It is not true that our Tower No. 22 in Susana Heights, Muntinlupa was bombed. What occurred was that somebody fired at the insulators of Tower 22 cutting the cable. Immediately, this registered at our substation and a line gang was dispatched. When our men arrived there, they saw two bundles of dynamite. The bomb disposal team responded immediately and removed the dynamite from the tower. It was cleared at around 0630 GMT yesterday. I want to correct the news that it was blasted. The dynamite did not explode. Also, there was a report that the tower's two posts collapsed, but not because of the explosion. They were cut with a saw. [passage omitted]

RAM Reportedly Still Making Recruitment Effort

HK0807101591 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 6 Jul 91 p 8

[By Aris R. Ilagan]

[Text] Pili, Camarines Sur—Chief Superintendent MIguel Fontanilla, Philippine National Police Regional Command 5 chief, told Gen. Lisandro Abadia," AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff, here yesterday that rebel soldiers are still trying to recruit Navy men and Marines in camps in the Bicol region.

But Fontanilla assured Abadia that the Reform the AFP Movement (RAM) officers failed to get recruits from his command.

Abadia said former Army lieutenant colonel Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan and other rebel officers who are still at large will have to face court-martial even if they surrender.

He said the rebel military officers who will surrender will be given due process of law.

Abadia flew here for the award ceremonies for members of the Army 201st Infantry Brigade chosen by the AFP General Headquarters as "Brigade of the Year" based on its effectiveness in the implementation of "Oplan Lambat Bitag"[Operation Plan Net Trap] in the Bicol region.

The AFP chief said he keeps an "open-door" policy in efforts to dialogue with the remaining members of the outlawed RAM.

"Economic progress and political stability can be attained only in a peaceful environment. The fighting should stop now if we want to go on with the peace talks," Abadia said.

Honasan, former Navy commodore Domingo Calajate, and other top rebel officers are facing charges of mutiny, murder, and frustrated murder Before military courts.

Earlier, Abadia said he had "relaxed" the pursuit operations against Honasan's group to have the way for a dialogue between government authorities and the rebel soldiers.

Abadia expressed optimism that his efforts will have positive results since he has been exhausting all possible "democratic and peaceful means" to end the military rebellion against the administration.

'Communist Rebels' Camp Seized in Mt. Province

HK0507060691 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 5 Jul 91 pp 1, B-12

[By Aris Ilagan]

[Text] Thirty communist rebels and three soldiers were killed when government troops seized a big training camp of the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army (CPP-NPA) in Sagada, Mt. Province, after three days of fighting.

Gen. Lisandro Abadia, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff, and other top military officials from AFP General Headquarters (GHQ) in Camp Aguinaldo, flew to Sagada to inspect the CPP-NPA camp, codenamed Camp Venus, in barangay Aquiat near the boundary of Ilocos Sur and Abra.

Abadia said the CPP-NPA camp was surrounded by bunker outposts and tunnels carved out from the moutains.

"This is a big psychological blow to the communist insurgents," he said. "It will take them years before they can develop something as secure and well-fortified as this."

Brig. Gen. Carlos Tanega, chief of the AFP Intelligence Service, said there were reports that three top CPP Central Committee leaders—Leo Velasco, CPP politburo chief, his wife, Elizabeth Principe, secretary-general of the CPP Cordillera Regional Party Committee; and Julius Giron, deputy secretary for the CPP-Northern Luzon Commission—stayed in the camp for some time.

Abadia led the AFP-GHQ team in a two-hour hike to the NPA camp, passing through muddy trails, ravine embankments, and streams since the helicopter gunships could not land in the remote area because of the thick forest.

Northern Luzon Command (Noleom) officials said it took them two years to determine the location of the rebel camp.

Based on intelligence information, Abadia said the NPA camp was manned by about 150 heavily armed rebels.

Tanega, on the other hand, said several informers revealed that the rebels hid many guns and amunition in the camp before escaping from Army soldiers.

EC Offers $10 Million in Technical Assistance

HK1207034291 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 12 Jul 91 p 3

[By staff member Corrie Narisma]

[Text] The European Community (EC) has offered at least $10 million in technical assistance and grants for the Board of Investments (BOI) and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Trade and Industry Undersecretary Gloria M. Arroyo said yesterday.

Arroyo said the technical assistance/grant from the EC will be made available over a period of three years.

A team from EC is already conducting a survey to determine the areas of study which will merit the technical assistance component.

Areas considered are the following: study on the restructuring of the BOI; creation and subsequent implementation of the Investment and Export Development Council to be headed by the President of the Philippines; BOI promotion work overseas which may include creation of BOI investment offices and of a central point of data disemination in the EC; publication requirements for investment promotion; subsector follow-up projects; and masterplan for industrial development.

Of these projects, however, the BOI preferred the overseas promotion work and the publication requirement for promotion.

The DTI, Arroyo said, wants to divert its prospective share in the assistance/grant to the overall rehabilitation efforts of the government for the areas and people seriously affected by the Mt. Pinatubo eruption.

The DTI and other members of the Committee on Livelihood under the Presidential Task Force on the Rehabilitation of Mt. Pinatubo affected areas recently came out with various strategies aimed at facilitating rehabilitation work in these areas.

On the aspect of job restoration, efforts will cover activities such as provision of financial assistance for the repair/reconstruction of damaged buildings and equipment; establishment of a factory resettlement program; development of alternate market for U.S. bases-dependent firms; and, creation of employee placement program which will involve employment matching services and overseas placement facilitation services.

In a bid to create new employment opportunities, efforts will focus on generation of investment through establishment of industrial estates and others; and entrepreneurship development program will be implemented to develop more self-employment opportunities; develop and strengthen cooperatives; and develop self-help groups by establishment [of] tribal craft villages creating markets for tribal products and activation of tourism promotional effort in these areas.

To restore and improve agricultural productivity, activities will center on the improvement of land productivity, development of other opportunities and strengthening of market linkages.

Arroyo admitted that funding is the biggest problem in the implementation of projects that will facilitate the rehabilitation of affected areas and people.

Acting Trade and Industry Secretary Peter D. Garnucho Jr., she said, has been tapping various possible sources of financing for this purpose. DTI, she said, hopes to tape a portion of the $10 million EC assistance to help finance these projects.

Environment Department Foreign Loans Reported

HK1207035591 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 12 Jul 91 p 3

[By staffmember Elizabeth Perez]

[Text] The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has bagged two "record-setting" foreign loan packages amounting to $749 million.

But a government rule bars full use of these funds. Consequently, donors may lose interest in giving more in the future for the environment.

DENR Secretary Fulgencio Factoran signed yesterday a memorandum of agreement with the Asian Development Bank [ADB] and the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan for a second forestry-sector loan amounting to $400 million.

The DENR was also able to get the approval of the World Bank for a $349-million environmental policy loan, the biggest extended by the bank so far to any country for environmental projects.

The ADB-OECF package will fund the second phase of the National Forestation Program (NFP), which aims to reforest at least 100,000 hectares of denuded forestlands annually over the next five years.

The NFP was launched three yeras ago through a $240-million loan also extended by the two foreign institutions.

But here's the rub.

A high-raking DENR official said that the DENR will only be allowed to spend a measly P [Philippine Pesos] 600 million of the two loan packages for actual projects due to a government-imposed cap on public expenditures.

The bulk of the loans will instead go to other government agencies in the form of budgetary support after these are turned over to the national treasury, the DENR official added.

He warned that such an arrangement may cause foreign donors to refuse to bankroll future environmental projects if they foresee a decline in the DENR's implementation of foreign-funded programs.

"Nakakahinayang dahil pag dating sa environmental concerns, madaling magbigay ang mga donors," [What a waste, because when it comes to environmental concerns, donors give quite easily] the official said. "Kaya lang, kung turnaksak ang mga projects natin dahil tyaw tayong pagamitin ng pera, baka mawalan din ng gana ang mga donors." [If our projects fail because we are not allowed to use the money, the donors may lose interest].

The two loan packages are expected to come in by next year.

Aside from the foreign loan problem, Factoran expressed concern that out of the proposed P2.5 billion DENR budget for 1992, the department will be forced to allocate only one-third of the amount for crucial maintenance and operating expenditures.

Thailand

Foreign Ministry Concerned About Aid Delay

BK1207022791 Bangkok THE NATION in English 12 Jul 91 p 17, 26

[By Anuphong Chaiyaritthi]

[Text] An apparent delay in the progress of a substantial assistance package from Japan has raised concern among Ministry of Finance oficials.

The reported delay in the new yen loan and assorted Japanese aids worth about 80 billion yen came on top of an earlier suspension of military and economic assistance from the United States as a result of the February 23 coup d'etat.

A high-ranking informed source said the US Agency for International Development (USAID) had told Thai authorities at a recent meeting the US would not provide financial or technical assistance to any new projects in Thailand in the next fiscal year (starting October 1).

The US officials said assistance would only be given to ongoing projects under previous commitments.

The February military coup prompted the Bush administration to cut off $16.4 million worth of military-economic assistance for Thailand in 1991. The decision was in accordance with the US Foreign Assistance Act which prohibits such aids to countries where constitutionally-elected governments are toppled by force.

The source said the US would be guided in its next step by what Thailand did.

He said if the National Peace-Keeping Council made good its word on returning Thailand back to a fully-fledged democracy, there would be less pressure on the administration from many quarters in the US to impose suspensions in other areas.

The USAID decision to suspend all financial and technological assistance next fiscal year was described as a "blow" to Thailand.

He said it could be interpreted that the Bush administration was not satisfied with democracy development in Thailand.

Japanese officials were also reported to have stalled on the progress of the new yen loan package for Thailand despite the fact that it was approved earlier this year and confirmed during Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's visit to Bangkok during late April and early May.

Normally, Japan's Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) conveyed its decision on what projects it planned to assist two months after evaluating the projects proposed by the Thai side.

The Japanese team completed its evaluation in late February, soon after the military coup. It was supposed to have replied in April.

"But the Japanese OECF has not yet delivered its consideration to the Finance Ministry," the source said.

He said the Finance Ministry contacted the OECF office in Thailand and the Japanese Embassy several times, "but they could not explain why the process was delayed this year".

Normally, the Japanese assistance agreement was signed in August. This year, the Thai Finance Ministry told its Japanese counterpart the agreement must be signed in August because the Finance Ministry would be busy preparing to host the World Bank/International Monetary Fund annual meeting in October.

Financial assistance from Japan includes loans from the ASEAN-Japan Development Fund, grants and the 16th Yen Loan, amounting to 80,000 million yen.

The source said the grants from Japan in 1989 amounted to 4,370.9 million baht, or 68.8 percent of total foreign aid to the country, and 3,871.3 million baht or 58.6 percent in 1990.

The grants from USAID in 1989 amounted to 599.8 million baht or 9.4 percent of the total foreign aid to Thailand and 464.9 million baht or 7.03 percent in 1990.

Prime Minister Receives Japanese Officials

BK1107145191 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Mutsuki Kato, chairman of the Policy Research Council of the Liberal Democratic Party and member of the Japanese House of Representatives, paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun at Government House at 1700 today. The Japanese delegation is on a visit to Thailand and Cambodia from 8 to 12 July to learn of the attitudes of the countries in this region toward the role of the Japanese Self-Defense Forces and toward Japanese participation in the United Nations peacekeeping forces.

[Begin Anan recording] They wanted to learn of my opinions on the Cambodian problem, bilateral relations, and general international issues. Both sides shared the view that relations between Thailand and Japan are of a special nature because there are close relations between the heads of state of the two countries. The Japanese emperor will visit Thailand at the end of September. Thailand will be the first leg of the Japanese emperor's foreign tour. [end recording]

Anan: Burma's Isolation 'Counterproductive'

BK1207082691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0809 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Bangkok July 12 (AFP)—Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun, defending his country's continued ties with Rangoon's ruling junta, said a complete isolation of Burma would be "counterproductive."

Mr. Anan's remarks here Thursday in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE came as Washington announced that U.S. Secretary of State James Baker would raise the issue of human rights in Burma later this month at meetings with his counterparts of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

They also closely followed the decision by the European parliament in Strasbourg to give its 1990 human rights award to Aung San Suu Kyi, the detained leader of the opposition, reflecting Western revulsion over the junta's represssion of its pro-democracy movement.

"The continuation of our dealings with Burma on a practical basis should not be viewed by Westerners as a negative approach. We believe that a complete isolation of that country or that regime would be rather counterproductive," Mr. Anan said.

Mr. Anan became Bangkok's prime minister in the wake of a military coup here in February. But the highly respected businessman turned diplomat has repeatedly said that he wanted to see a swift return to democracy in Thailand.

"Dealing with another country does not imply an acceptance of their norms, of their policies. The are two different matters," he said when discussing relations with Burma during the interview.

"Countries in Europe have been dealing with East Germany and some of the other countries in Eastern Europe" before their communist regimes were toppled, Mr. Anan argued.

"We have no way of changing the geographical location of Burma, and we're not powerful enough just to ignore them or to ignore their existence," he said.

"We're not saying that countries in Europe and America must change their policies. Each has its own objectives. Each has its own way of dealing with the problems. Approach does not have to be similar," Mr. Anan said.

Aung San Suu Kyi, the 46-year-old daughter of the hero of Burma's independence from Britain, has been under house arrest for two years.

Rangoon's military, which seized power in a bloody coup in late 1988, has refused to surrender power to her National League for Democracy (NLD) despite the fact that it swept elections last year.

Burma's military is "as reactionary a regime as I have seen anywhere," but it is also "impervious to outside pressure," a senior U.S. official said in Washington on Thursday.

The official, who spoke to reporters on condition of anonymity, said Mr. Baker would raise the question of human rights in Burma during forthcoming meetings with representatives of ASEAN, which includes Thailand, in Jakarta.

Suchinda To Visit Arms Exhibit in Beijing

BK1207033191 Bangkok THE NATION in English 12 Jul 91 p A2

[Text] The National Peacekeeping Council (NPKC)'s Deputy Chairman Gen Suchinda Khraphrayun will visit Beijing from July 16 to 20 at the invitation of the People's Liberation Army, informed sources said yesterday.

The invitation was extended to Suchinda by the Chinese Armed Forces' Deputy Chief of Staff Gen Xu Zin when he visited Bangkok earlier this month.

The sources said during the visit Suchinda is expected to review the Chinese army and visit an arms exhibition organized by local arms manufacturers and dealers.

Calls for Quicker General Elections Rebuffed

BK1207011691 Bangkok THE NATION in English 12 Jul 91 p A1, A2

[Excerpt] Army chief Gen Suchinda Khraphrayun apparently toughened his stance on growing calls by politicians for a quicker general election when he hinted that the election would probably be held in April next year, and not sooner.

"There is no point rushing for it because the election deadline as fixed in the provisional Constitution is still more than half a year off," he said.

He also accused those calling for an earlier election of causing unnecessary disorder and unrest.

Without mentioning New Aspiration Party leader Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, who issued the call earlier this week, Suchinda, who is effectively the most powerful figure in the National Peacekeeping Council, also brushed aside his predencessor's advice for the NPKC to tighten its control over the government of Premier Anan Panyarachun, and other bodies formed at the council's order.

Chawalit has contended that the NPKC's duties are to exercise its powers decisively to eliminate conditions which could lead to the resurgence of a "parliamentary dictatorship" and to proceed quickly towards the next general election pending the drafting of the new constitution.

But Suchinda said: "Do you want the country to be under two governments? Any country with two governments will be in disorder, as any man with two wives cannot live in peace.

"The NPKC and the civilian government have different roles. We only take care of security affairs. I don't understand why some (critics) fault us for playing a gentle role."

He said the NPKC had delegated its powers to run the country to the government and would not interfere unless it received complaints from the public against the administration.

"But nobody is unhappy with the civilian government and there is no point of us having a finger in every pie," he said.

Suchinda said that all the people involved in the formulation of the new constitution were following the procedures laid down in the provisional constitution.

The National Legislative Assembly-appointed committee, chaired by Deputy Premier Michai Ruchuphan, intends to conclude drawing up the draft constitution by August 15 before forwarding it to the assembly for consideration and promulgation, he said. "There is nothing wrong with it," the army chief said.

Asked about Gen Chawalit's comments, Suchinda said that Chawalit and NPKC leaders were in different positions.

"He is now a politician, but if he was in the NPKC, I am confident he would be doing the same as we are doing." Suchinda rejected Chawalit's charge that NPKC might try to cling to power.

"It depends on the individuals' views. But I am not a power seeker and I will step down," he said.

Suchinda also differed with Chawalit's view that coup makers would try to keep their power, and after elections were held, would eventually return to stage another coup. Chawalit had said this "vicious circle" would remain unless the NPKC was sincere in "establishing true democracy."

Suchinda said Chawalit's assumption might not be true because "the world keeps changing."

Even the communist nations are transforming their socialsit systems to become capitalist states, he said.

He said the Feb 23 coup was held because there was no alternative for slowing the country's woeful political situation.

"But we did not stage the coup because we wanted power, otherwise we would not have formed the interim government."

Suchinda said it wasn't possible for the NPKC to achieve the objectives of the Feb 23 coup "100 percent". "In any work, we have to deal with many people and it is impossible for all to think the same way. It's just impossible to get it 100 percent," he added.

But NPKC Secretary General Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi, who is also deputy army chief and interior minister, reacted differently to Chawalit's biting criticism.

He said Chawalit's relationship with the NPKC has actually become deeper than ever because the former army chief's comments were "constructive".

"He is just concerned about his younger brothers in the NPKC and made the comments out of his good intention that we would be able to improve our performance," Itsarphong said.

Itsaraphong said that the NPKC would try to have the election held as soon as possible.

"We will never break our promise on the election," he said.

Itsaraphong said the the NPKC would meet on Monday to review the progress of the constitution drafting.

Ex-leader of the Democrat Party and former deputy premier Phichai Rattakun yesterday joined politicians' calls for an early election, saying that it would be the only way to improve the investment climate which has deteriorated as a result of the coup.

Phichai said he also wanted the constitution, now being drafted by a military-appointed committee, to be as democratic as possible even though it might not be an ideal charter.

The new constitution, he said, should give the Counter Corruption Commission more power to investigate corruption cases and to take action against those found guilty. [passage omitted]

Suchinda Defends Peace Keeping Council, Coup

BK1107143991 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Interview with Army Commander and Vice Chairman of the National Peace Keeping Council General Suchinda Khraprayun by unidentified reporters on 11 July; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Suchinda, in progress] ... it already existed. The people who try to rush things are the ones who want to create confusion in the country. That is how many people view the intentions of those individuals. Everything is being carried out in accordance with the previously stated steps. What is it that this out of the ordinary, then? They are charging that the National Peace Keeping Council [NPKC] has not done anything. The NPKC has handed over authority to the government to be the action-taking body. Do you want to see the country have two governments? That would cause a lot of confusion, even more confusion than a man having two wives.

[Reporter] Interviewed about a coup, M.R. Khukrit said a coup can never be ruled out, comparing it to the sun rising and setting. He also said a coup is an event which people who crave power use to justify their actions.

[Suchinda] Revolutions and changes occur regularly in this world, as well as in systems of government, like the communist and socialist systems. There is nothing certain or eternal in this world, is there? The country's administration has undergone several changes with time. I am not aware of a governmental system that is known to be the best, purest, or without any flaw. People have been searching for such a system but have not yet discovered it.

[Reporter] Is a coup still a possibility now?

[Suchinda] One did occur, didn't it? Who could prevent it as long as wrong things existed which could not be corrected any other way? There must be a solution to such a situation.

[Reporter] What about the comment that coups have to do with people craving power?

[Suchinda] It depends on how people want to look at the matter. People who want power may stage a coup, but I do not want power.

Vietnam

U.S. Organization Donates $2.5 Million in Aid

BK1107154491 Hanoi VNA in English 1429 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 11—A ceremony was held recently in Ho Chi Minh City to receive a quantity of medical equipment and medicines as humanitarian aid from the "Friendship Bridge", an organization in Colorado state, the United States.

The 2.5 million U.S. dollar-worth aid to some hospitals in Ho Chi Minh City was handed over by Mr. Allan Powers, representing the "Friendship Bridge" organization, to a representative of the Ho Chi Minh City Public Health Service.

In July last year, the "Friendship Bridge" presented Vietnam with the aid worth three million U.S. dollars. The third consignment of similar aid is expected to arrive in Vietnam in early next year.

Spokesman Comments on PRC Spratly Islands Plan

BK1207104891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1045 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Hanoi, July 12 (AFP)—Vietnam backs joint exploitation of the disputed Spratly Islands, an official source here said Friday.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman also said Vietnam would participate in a four-day international forum on the issue to begin in Bandung, Indonesia, on Monday.

While reasserting Vietnam's claim over the South China Sea archipelago, the spokesman said Hanoi favoured peaceful means to resolve the differences.

"A solution has still not been found, it is better to put aside these differences and to cooperate in the exploitation" of the South China Sea, the spokesman said, adding that this was in "the interest of the peace and development of each country in the region."

The Spratlys, located 400 kilometres (250 miles) southeast of Vietnam, are thought to be rich in oil. They are claimed in whole or part by China, Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia and Taiwan.

"We welcome seminars and exchanges (of views) on cooperation over the exploitation of natural resources in the disputed areas," the source said in a reference to the Spratlys.

Hanoi backed Chinese President Yang Shangkun's proposal last month for cooperation and joint exploration of the islands along with other countries claiming sovereignty over them.

The spokesman said Vietnamese scientists were preparing for next week's workshop on managing potential conflict in the South China Sea in Bandung.

China, which reaffirmed Thursday its claim of sovereignty over the Spratly as well as the Paracel Islands to the north, will also attend the meeting. Beijing boycotted the forum's first conference in Jakarta in January last year.

The Spratlys, which lie across strategic sea lanes between the Indian and Pacific Ocean, are largely controlled by Vietnamese troops following a naval battle between Vietnam and China in March 1988, though China has occupied some islands since 1974.

Taiwan will also participate in the seminar, Indonesian Foreign Ministry officials said in Jakarta.

The other participants in the seminar are from Laos and the six members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)—Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

Seminar on 'Human Ecology' Opens in Hanoi

BK1107153891 Hanoi VNA in English 1415 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 11—An international seminar on human ecology opened here this morning with the participation of nearly 100 Vietnamese researchers and 17 foreign ecologists from the United States, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia and Laos.

The seminar, jointly sponsored by the Natural Resources and Environment Center of the Hanoi University, the U.S. East-West Center and the Southeast Asian Universities Agroecosystem Network-Suan, will sit for three days. Also present are representatives of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), UNDP [United Nations Development Program], SIDA [Swedish International Development Agency], Oxfam [Oxford Committee for Famine Relief], UNFPA [UN Fund for Population Activities], FAO [Food and Agriculture Organization] and the Australian Embassy in Vietnam.

The seminar is a good opportunity for Vietnamese ecologists to exchange with their foreign colleagues concepts and methodologies of human ecology in order to deepen their knowledge of the natural resources and the environment and promote sustainable rural development in Southeast Asia in general and in Vietnam in particular.

Among the more than 20 papers presented at the seminar, many dealt with common problems of human ecology such as "Introduction to Human Ecology" and "Man and Biodiversity". Others dealt specifically with the human ecology in Vietnam such as "consequences of the Traditional Agroaecosystem of the Vietnamese people", "Nature, Man and Agriculture of Vietnam" and "Mutual Aid Tradition in Rural Communities of Vietnam", etc.

Article Views Future of Vietnamese Socialism

BK1207024391 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Jul 91 p 5

[By Jacques Bekaert]

[Text] New York—In Hanoi, a few weeks ago, it was hard to get any sense of urgency as delegates were gathering in the Vietnamese capital to attend the seventh congress of the communist party. Here, in the United States, Vietnam simply does not exist. Being in a city concerned with drugs, crime, shrinking budget and poverty, one gets a sense of relativity, a sense of perspective, especially when it comes to the ideological content of Vietnam's policy.

The seventh congress, the final resolution explained, "approved the platform for national construction in the period of transition to socialism."

How long will that transition period last? No one knows. Some officials in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh say that it could take a long time. "Maybe a hundred years or more," as one of them declared.

Several ideologues have been brought to the Politburo. Two of them are Dao Duy Tung, who at 67 is secretary of the Central Committee in charge of ideological, scientific and educational work, and Nguyen Duc Binh, director of the Nguyen Ai Quoc Institute (Nguyen Ai Quoc or Nguyen the Patriot was one of the names used by Ho Chi Minh in the early days of his revolutionary crusade). This shows that the party remains serious when it comes to maintaining a "correct line."

But Vietnam cannot ignore what is going on in Eastern Europe, and the general crisis affecting socialism all over the world. But to some Vietnamese party cadres, the case of the Vietnamese communists cannot be compared with that of the communists of East Germany, Hungary, Poland or even the USSR. They believe that communism is genuine in Vietnam, and not imposed by foreign troops, as it was in most of Eastern Europe.

They believe that the Vietnamese Communist Party was the first to embark on a campaign for reform, long before perestroyka changed the lives of the Soviet people. In their view, the leadership of the Vietnamese party is not corrupt. Nguyen Van Linh or Do Muoi do not collect expensive foreign cars or maintain luxurious residences in the countryside.

All this is largely true, but in the end it does not make a big difference. What the East Germans rejected was not only Erich Honecker, but the entire system which by and large failed miserably to deliver the basic goods. Not just material goods, but spiritual goods as well.

Last May, in a long and interesting speech broadcast by Hanoi Radio, Mr Khong Doan Hoi explained that "all we have considered as socialism is now disintegrating and collapsing in the eyes of the people throughout the world." He also admitted that "we do not know and cannot know the stages and practical measures to reach the noble objectives that are socialism."

Noble objectives? Well, yes the objectives are noble, but the perspective was lost decades ago. To most people who have lived under socialist regimes, socialism means little more than secret police, fear, restriction, oppression, low quality products, poverty, dust, and contempt for the people. Vietnam is not different. It has had a fair share of "Stalinist" practices and often cared very little for its people's basic human rights. So it could hardly present itself as a model, even to the shrinking socialist world. "Our main problem," one senior party cadre once told me, "is that we are basically still a very feudal society."

Party leaders argue that no deep political reforms are possible as long as Vietnam remains one of the world's poorest countries. Fair enough. Vietnam needs stability. But large-scale economic reforms of the type and nature required by the country cannot be achieved without at least a minimum of political reform.

Fundamental economic problems are directly linked to political decisions. As Mr Khong Doan Hoi put it, "A perfect socialism must be linked closely to the socialist regime owning the means of production."

What seems to happen in Vietnam today, at least within the party ideological circles, is a last-minute (and sometimes honourable) attempt to salvage the ideals of socialism, while ignoring some of the most disturbing aspects of reality.

"The true nature of capitalism, past and present, cannot be separated from exploitation, cruelty, immorality, and oppression of mankind," insists Mr Khong Doan Hoi. Of course not. But the very same words could apply to the practice of socialism as we have known it. Neither pure capitalism nor pure socialism exist today. It seems though that a liberal system, with a good dose of social protection for the working people, works better than any other system.

At this stage the Vietnamese Communist Party enjoys an undisputed monopoly of power. All other organised forces—the army, unions, security organs—are controlled by the party. They are the arms and legs of the party. This monolithic structure makes reforms slow and painful, but no less inevitable.

When in Hanoi a few days before the seventh congress I was struck by the indifference of most people I met. "We have no time to worry about the congress," several men and women told me. "We have to work, we have to make a living, life is hard." Others told me they had lost interest in politics because they did not believe the party could offer anything that would be relevant to their lives.

One inside source admitted that there had been little reaction from the rank-and-file to draft documents issued months ago by the party. Intellectuals mostly complained about the spiritual poverty of the party. "I can accept anything—poverty, hardship and sacrifices. But I cannot see any justification for our lack of intellectual freedom," a long-time revolutionary told me. And Vietnam in 1991 needs ideas as much as it needs credit and capital.

Do Muoi Speaks at Post-Congress Meeting

BK1107092991 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 28 Jun 91, p 4

[Speech by General Secretary Do Muoi at grand meeting in Hanoi on 27 June to greet success of Seventh National Congress of Delegates of Communist Party of Vietnam]

[Text] Dear compatriots and combatants in the capital, dear comrades and friends: The Seventh Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam has achieved fine success. Its success is manifested in many aspects, the most outstanding being the adoption with high unanimity of the documents drafted by the sixth party Central Committee. They are as follows:

—The platform for national construction in the period of transition to socialism.

—The strategy of socioeconomic stabilization and development up to the year 2000.

—The political report.

—The report on party building and amendments to the party statutes.

—The amended party statutes.

This is a very important achievement of the seventh party congress and of our entire party and people. It is the result of the development of the freedom of thought and the implementation of democratic debates within the party and among the people. It is the crystallization of the wisdom of the entire party and people and of our compatriots throughout the country and many overseas Vietnamese. These documents not only help to resolve immediate issues, they also shed light on the future of our country as it proceeds with the renovation, sets forth correct strategic orientations, and provides concrete solutions consistent with real life situations and the objective law of evolution. It thus creates conditions for accelerating the renovation, overcoming the socioeconomic crisis, promptly liberating our country from poverty and under development, and paving the way for our people to enter the 21st century with a higher level of development.

The dominant features of the seventh party congress documents are the perseverance in socialist goals, the resolve to use Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh's thought as an ideological basis and as a compass for guiding the actions of our entire party and people. Additional features include the people's confidence in the CPV's leadership over the entire society, and the determination to comprehensively and thoroughly renovate all aspects of socio-political life, implementing democracy in society, bearing in mind the need to concentrate efforts on renovating the economy, developing the multisectorial economy in accordance with the market mechanism under state management, and broadening cooperation with foreign countries regardless of their socio-political systems. In this way, there will be conditions for promptly extricating the country from the crisis, stabilizing the socioeconomic situation, improving the people's living standards, liberating the nation from poverty and under development, and firmly advancing along the socialist line.

The second prominent trait is the fact that motivated by a high sense of democracy and responsibility before the fatherland and the glorious revolutionary undertaking of the party and people, our seventh party congress has elected the right comrades to the party's top leading organ. The congress has spent a lot of time discussing personnel organization and has elected the new party Central Committee comprising 146 members who meet all the congress requirements in terms of orientations, criteria, structure, quantity, and quality.

The composition of the seventh party Central Committee reflects both continuity and success and also provides additional personnel typifying our party's wisdom, political quality, revolutionary ethics, and practical organizational skills. The party Central Committee held its first meeting to elect the Political Bureau, the Secretariat, and the Central Control Commission. The new party Central Committee pledges its determination to make constant efforts to enhance its leadership skills and meet the earnest aspirations of the entire party and people, namely purifying and consolidating our party, persevering in the socialist path, advancing the country toward socialism, and bringing a bountiful life, freedom, and happiness to the people. These are the raison d'etre and responsibility of all members of the party Central Committee and the CPV.

The entire congress was deeply moved by the fact that Comrades Nguyen Van Linh and Vo Chi Cong and other comrade veteran revolutionaries asked to be withdrawn from the namelist of candidates standing for elections with the pure motive and noble intention of rejuvenating the leadership nuclei of our party. These comrades have set a shining example of revolutionary ethics and political quality for communists. The congress sincerely wishes Comrades Nguyen Van Linh, Pham Van Dong, Vo Chi Cong, and other comrade veteran revolutionaries good health so that they can continue contributing to the revolutionary cause of our party and people.

Dear comrades and compatriots,

At this grand meeting, in the inspiring atmosphere, celebrating the success of the seventh party congress, on behalf of the congress and the seventh party Central Committee, from the bottom of my heart, I would like to thank our cadres, party members, and our compatriots and combatants throughout the country and in the capital. For several months now, they have brought their intellect into full play, made numerous diversified suggestions to the various draft documents of the congress, and have greeted the congress with their practical deeds. On behalf of the 1,176 congress delegates and 146 members of the party Central Committee, I would also like to sincerely thank our compatriots and comrades in the capital for taking good care of us and ensuring the essential conditions for the congress to proceed smoothly and safely.

At the seventh party congress, our party and people have received the friendship and solidarity, the trust and strong support, from the glorious Communist Party and people of the Soviet Union, from the fraternal Lao and Cambodian parties and peoples who are full of pure sentiments, special loyalty, and from the heroic Communist Party and people of Cuba. The congress has also received numerous letters and messages of fine greetings from foreign communist and workers parties and friends. On this occasion, may I, on behalf of our entire party and people, express heartfelt gratitude for the militant solidarity, friendship, and cooperation that the fraternal parties and foreign sociopolitical organizations and friends have reserved for our party and people.

The success of the congress has a very important significance for the development of the country. However, to overcome our difficulties and trials, to continue to strongly push the renovation forward, and to advance to score great successes, the most decisive thing is still for the entire party and people to unite and join their hearts and hands to resolutely translate the various resolutions into reality.

We, the seventh party Central Committee, Political Bureau, and Secretariat promise our people, comrades, and combatants throughout the country that we will be united, uphold our sense of responsibility, and strive with the entire party, people, and Army to materialize the resolutions of the seventh party congress.

On behalf of the congress and the party Central Committee, I would like to sincerely thank the people in the capital city for holding this meeting to greet the success of the Seventh Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

It is my wish that the cadres, party members, and people of the capital realize Uncle Ho's wish that "Hanoi become a socialist capital and that the party organization of Hanoi strive to become a stable and strong organization."

VNA Reports Increase in 1991 Rice Acreage

BK1207061991 Hanoi VNA in English 0558 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 12—Farmers throughout Vietnam have by now put 1,297,280 hectares under summer-autumn rice, 4 (?percent) above plan and 103,000 hectares more than this time last year.

Of this number 1,185,250 hectares are in the south. The Mekong River Delta alone accounts for 968,120 hectares.

Besides, 681,540 hectares have been planted with the autumn rice, of which 387,630 hectares are in the north and 253,910 hectares in the south.

Crop pests have been reported in the south where 225,000 hectares have been affected, 85,000 seriously.

VNA Carries Statistics on Cultivated Land

BK1107152291 Hanoi VNA in English 1412 GMT 11 Jul 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA July 11—By 1990 the total cultivated area of Vietnam had expanded 0.74 percent compared with 1985, according to the General Department of Land Management.

The biggest increases were recorded in the midlands, the northern highlands, the central highlands, and the Mekong delta. The biggest expansion was in the central highlands (18.3 percent) mostly through the planting of coffee and rubber trees, followed by the midlands and the northern mountain area (1.5 percent) and the Mekong delta (0.91 percent).

Meanwhile, the cultivated area was reduced by 1.3 percent in the Red River delta, 6 percent in central Vietnam, and 1.1 percent along the central coast.

The slight increase of the cultivated land could not make up for the population growth. As a resut, per capita acreage of natural land decreased by 387 square metres, agricultural land by 73 sq.m., and cultivated land by 46 sq.m.

Daily Papers Printed in Hau Giang Province

BK1207064791 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 10 Jul 91

[Text] To serve the readers in the Mekong River Delta in a timely fashion during the seventh national party congress, as well as in the future, the Paper and Printing Enterprise of Hau Giang Province, working in coordination with the local post and telegraph service, has reprinted NHAN DAN and QUAN DOI NHAN DAN for distribution from 0600 daily. Previously, the two dailies were printed in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City and not available in Can Tho City until 1600 the same day. The quality of the papers printed in Hau Giang compares favorably with the copies printed in Ho Chi Minh City, although the transmissions of pictures are still unsatisfactory because of the incompatibility of the transmitter and receiver equipment.

The Paper and Printing Enterprise of Hau Giang Province began to print QUAN DOI NHAN DAN on 21 June and NHAN DAN a day later, putting out 4,000 copies of each paper daily. The posts and telegraph service of Hau Giang Province and the enterprise planned to install new printing equipment toward the end of June [as heard] to ensure the quality the papers in response to the demand of their readership in the Mekong River delta.

Australia

Human Rights Group Visit to PRC Approved

BK1207134891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1332 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Canberra, July 12 (AFP)—Australia's human rights delegation to China, in jeopardy because of doubts about the access it would be allowed to prisoners and prisons, is to go ahead, Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said Friday.

The delegation, planned following an invitation from Beijing, will leave as scheduled this weekend even though the Chinese had still not agreed to let it talk to jailed dissidents, the minister said in a statement.

Negotiations on this are to continue next week once the delegation is in China.

Earlier this week Mr. Evans said it might be deferred or cancelled because of the access limits imposed by the Chinese.

Broad agreement on a schedule for the delegation was agreed when the minister visited Beijing in April.

The nine-person team includes parliamentarians and legal, human rights and Chinese affairs experts along with linguists skilled in Mandarin, Cantonese and Tibetan. Its purposes are to start a human rights dialogue with China, obtain information on relevant Chinese law and policies, and make representations on particular cases.

The delegation will spend four days each in Beijing and Lhasa and two each in Chengdu and Shanghai.

The minister said the delegation would have access to Chinese agencies involved in human rights matters, to at least two prisons, Beijing and Shanghai, and to defence lawyers involved in cases with human rights implications.

There would be no limits placed on any unofficial contacts the delegation arranged.

The delegation will be the first of its type to visit China, although it is expected to be followed by French and Swiss groups.

It has attracted widespread criticism—mainly on the grounds that the Chinese are using it to gain international favour, especially with the United States; and that it risks being fooled into producing a whitewash.

But its leaders are confident they will not be fooled or restrained from asking penetrating questions.

Mr. Evans said the delegation was intended to reinforce the view now gaining ground in Beijing that human rights issues are a legitimate subject for international scrutiny and the application of universal standards.

"And it is intended to make very clear Australia's perception that the human rights situation in China is in need of major improvement if China is to meet those international standards," he said.

Fiji

Rabuka To Quit Army To Join Cabinet

BK1207050791 Hong Kong AFP in English 0454 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Suva, July 12 (AFP)—The commander of Fiji's Armed Forces and leader of the 1987 military coups, Major-General Sitiveni Rabuka, announced to his troops here Friday that he is quitting the Army to join the cabinet.

He told about 100 senior officers at a special meeting that he would officially announce his decision to Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara on Monday.

"He said he could do a lot for us from being in the cabinet," said an officer, who asked not to be identified.

He said Maj.-Gen. Rabuka was "pretty sad when he announced (the plans), but he said he arrived at it after a lot of thought."

"I think a lot of us would be sad too that he will be going, but the fact that he is joining the cabinet means we can still expect comradeship from him," the officer said.

Maj.-Gen. Rabuka spoke to his troops after meeting three trade union representatives including Mahendra Chaudhry, organiser of a national strike planned for next week.

The general was optimistic that the strike would be averted, the officer said. "He seemed fairly cheerful and it would have been quite a positive result."

Government Announces End to Labor Decrees

BK1207073991 Hong Kong AFP in English 0737 GMT 12 Jul 91

[Text] Suva, July 12 (AFP)—The Fijian Government announced Friday that it will revoke its draconian labor decrees in exchange for a union agreement to end industrial action which had threatened to cripple the economy.

Statements by government and unions said the six-week harvest boycott by sugarcane farmers had been lifted and the national strike planned for Tuesday was being called off.

The announcement was made hours after military sources said that Army commander Major-General Sitiveni Rabuka had told his troops of his resignation and imminent return to political office.

Union officials, who had been involved in negotiations with Maj.- Gen. Rabuka, said he had initiated the peace talks and they "looked forward to working with him in the future."

The military sources said the army chief would officially announce on Monday that he would serve as deputy prime minister and minister for home affairs.